THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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ISRO TO GROW CROPS IN SPACE ON PSLV-C60 SPADEX MISSION

24 experiments include 10 from pvt sector

Of the 24 payloads, 14 will be from various ISRO labs and 10 from private universities and start-ups. In one of the experiments, ISRO will grow eight cowpea seeds from seed germination and plant sustenance until the two-leaf stage in a closed-box environment with thermal controls. Amity University, Mumbai, plans to study the growth of spinach in space

PSLV-C60 SPADEX, THE FOURTH POEM MISSION, IS EXPECTED TO BE LAUNCHED LATER THIS MONTH

The PSLV Orbital Experiment Module (POEM-4) will carry 24 experimental payloads to demonstrate various technologies in space

SOURCE: ISRO

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'Atrocities in the name of dharma due to ignorance'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mumbai

DAYS after expressing concern over the resurgence of temple-mosque disputes threatening to disrupt communal harmony, Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday said that all acts of persecution and atrocities committed in the name of dharma (religion) were due to lack of true comprehension of dharma.

Speaking at an event in Maharashtra's Amravati, he said improper and incomplete understanding of dharma leads to Adharma. "Dharma has always existed, governing the workings of the world, which is why it is called 'Sanatan' (eternal). The practice of dharma itself ensures its protection. The various reformative sects in our dharma played a crucial role and these sects are real wealth of dharma," he said.

He said no religion teaches to divide people, but rather they impart the wisdom of uniting people. "Unity is eternal. The whole universe is one. Practising non-violence protects the Dharma. If we really and properly understand the Dharma, then there will be tranquillity, equality, unity and prosperity," he said.

He said while even illiterates can easily understand dharma, it is often the educated lot, who are bloated with self-pride of their knowledge, who fail to comprehend it.

India, Kuwait now strategic partners

Key defence pact signed; Modi holds extensive talks with the Emir, invites him to visit India

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

INDIA and Kuwait on Sunday decided to elevate their bilateral relationship to a 'strategic partnership', under which both countries will explore ways to enhance cooperation in several sectors including education, information technology, pharmaceuticals, fintech, infrastructure, and security.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who arrived in the Gulf nation on Saturday for a two-day visit, held extensive talks with Kuwait's top leaders, including Emir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, and signed a number of pacts.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on defence will provide for cooperation in the areas of defence industries, supply of defence equipment, training, exchange of experts and joint exercises, and collaboration in research and development. The other MoUs cover sports, culture, and solar energy, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi being conferred with 'The Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer' by Emir of Kuwait Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al Sabah, in Kuwait on Sunday | PTI

Modi's meeting with the Emir was at the iconic Bayan Palace. During the interaction, Modi invited the Emir to visit India. Modi also expressed his gratitude to the Emir for ensuring the wellbeing of over one million Indians in Kuwait. The Kuwaiti leader, in turn, acknowledged the vital contributions of the Indian community to Kuwait's development.

The PM said the talks covered ways to deepen economic and cultural linkages between India and Kuwait, adding: "We are optimistic about the India-Kuwait Strategic Partnership scaling new heights of success in the times to come."

Modi also held wide-ranging talks with Crown Prince Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah and Kuwaiti Prime Minister Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah.

In their delegation-level talks, the two prime ministers discussed a roadmap to strengthen the partnership in diverse areas including trade, investment, energy, defence, security, health, education, technology and people-to-people ties, the MEA said.

Modi is the first Indian prime minister to visit Kuwait in 43 years after Indira Gandhi visited the country in 1981.

59,772 govt teacher posts vacant in K'taka

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

A staggering 59,772 posts of teachers remain vacant in government schools in Karnataka. Of these, 50,067 posts are vacant in primary schools and 9,705 in high schools. Also, 6,158 schools are managing with just one teacher.

Educationists argue that the government is eroding educational standards at all levels, from primary to high school, due to widespread teacher shortage and inadequate facilities that fail to attract even teachers.

Experts suggest that Karnataka should follow Kerala's example, where Rs 10,000 crore has been allocated over five years to enhance school models for holistic educational development. They argue that shortage of teachers is a clear violation of the Right to Education, which mandates one teacher for every 30 students in primary schools, and one for every 35 students in higher primary schools.

Educationist Niranjanaradhya VP argued, "With 50,067 primary teacher positions vacant and 34,807 more retiring by 2028-29, how can we maintain quality education?" He stressed that without immediate action, the education system will face an 80,000-strong vacancy backlog, crippling schools across the state.

To tackle shortage, the department has turned to 45,000 guest teachers, with about 35,000 of them working at the primary level alone. P7

EXPRESS READ

Nitish, Modi to lead NDA's poll fight in Bihar

New Delhi: Senior Bihar BJP leader and the state's deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary on Sunday said the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) would contest the 2025 Bihar Legislative Assembly elections under the joint leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "The NDA will seek the people's mandate again under CM Nitish Kumar and PM Narendra Modi's leadership," Choudhary said | P9

Actor Allu Arjun's residence vandalised

Hyderabad: A group of persons, claiming to be members of Osmania University Joint Action Committee, on Sunday vandalised flower pots and other things at the residence of Telugu actor Allu Arjun here, demanding justice to the woman who died in *Pushpa-2* screening stampede in Hyderabad recently. They raised slogans against the movie actor and demanded financial assistance of Rs 1 crore for the victim's family | P7

2-year 'probation' for new drivers in Kerala soon

KRISHNA KUMAR K E & MANISHA V C S @ Kochi

STARTING next year, it won't be all smooth sailing for those receiving their driver's licence in Kerala. The state's Motor Vehicles Department (MVD) is set to introduce—maybe as early as April—a 'two-year' probation period for fresh licence holders as it looks to cut down on road accidents. During the period, the riders/drivers will get negative points if they get caught for driving-related offences. Get caught multiple times, and they will have to start the entire process all over again.

The points-based system is being introduced on the basis of a recent in-house study, which said 70% of road accidents in the state take place during the first three years of a person getting their driver's licence. The move is inspired by a similar practice in the UK.

"The probation system is part of a series of sweeping changes that will be introduced in the next few months to cut the rise in accidents. New licence holders will be assessed through a points-based system," Transport Commissioner Nagaraju Chakilam IPS told this newspaper.

For instance, a fresh licence holder will be awarded two negative points (-2) if they are caught for a traffic offence, say jumping the signal or failing to put on a seat belt. "Their licence will be revoked when they accumulate six negative points," Nagaraju said. The licencees will get six points upon completing a year without any accidents or committing any traffic offence. Once they accumulate 12 points, they will get their licence.

In the case of learner's licence, new licencees will have to label their vehicles 'P-1' and 'P-2' for the first and second years of probation.

Contact your MFD/RIA to know more.

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BHAROSA APNO KA

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
Monday: 23.12.2024 • Year: Krodhi • Ayana: Dakshinayana
Ritu: Himantha • Masa: Margashira • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Ashtami 4.48 pm
Nakshatra: Uttharaphalguni 9.41 am • Moon in Tula Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 20°C | MAX 26°C
FORECAST
Cloudy

Sunrise 06.37 am
Sunset 05.59 pm
Moonrise 12.12 am
Moonset 12.28 pm

02 BENGALURU MONDAY 23.12.2024 newindianexpress.com

Lack of bus shelters at BU irks students

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

STUDENTS and staff of Bangalore University, who rely on BMTC buses for their daily commute, are facing difficulties due to lack of proper bus shelters across the Jnanabharathi campus. The absence of shelters is especially problematic during the monsoon, with many students reporting that they often miss classes after getting drenched while waiting for buses.

The BMTC operates buses frequently on the Jnanabharathi route, connecting the campus to key city hubs like KR Market and Majestic and other areas like Ullal, Mallathahalli. However, with over 4,000 students relying on BMTC buses for daily commutes, apart from two bus shelters ---one at the university and the other at the Quarters, the remaining three bus stops do not have any bus shelter inside the campus causing significant inconvenience to students and staff.

Student leader G Lokesh Ram told TNIE that students and staff members rely heavily on public transport. However, the absence of bus stops has made their daily commutes challenging. "Students and staff depend heavily on public transport. Without proper bus shelters, especially during rains, students often miss classes." He urged the university to take up the issue with officials concerned at BBMP to get bus shelters.

Responding to the outcry, Dr Jayakumar, registrar of Bangalore University, acknowledged the issue and highlighted that the university is planning to address the problem through a public-private partnership.

"We will ensure introducing electric buses within the campus to provide sustainable transport options for students and staff. The university management board will also install dedicated stands for electric vehicles, enhancing the campus' transport infrastructure," said a senior university member.

To avert fraudulent unreserved railway tickets, two thermal printers were launched in KSR Bengaluru City station in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

Thermal printers at KSR rly station to outwit fraud

Takes only 3 seconds to issue ticket as compared to 20 seconds taken by dot matrix printer

S LALITHA @Bengaluru

TO avert fraudulent unreserved railway tickets, the Bengaluru Railway Division on Sunday launched thermal printers for issual of tickets. Two such printers made their debut at two counters of KSR Bengaluru City station at the main entrance.

The KSR station issues approximately 12,000 and 13,000 open tickets daily.

Three more such printers - one each at railway stations at KR Puram, Sir M Visvesvaraya Terminal and Yesvantpur will make their debut on Monday.

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager (SDCM), Bengaluru Division, AV Krishna Chaitanya told TNIE, "In the recent past, multiple instances of duplicating unreserved tickets using printing machines have been reported in North India. The Railway Board has issued a directive to all zones in the country to put an end to the same. Hence, we have opted to switch to thermal printers which ensures tickets cannot be duplicated."

Elaborating on the technology used in thermal printers, he said tickets are issued using heat sensors. "A unique QR code is generated for each ticket, allowing TTEs to check any ticket randomly and verify the genuineness of it using an app created for the purpose. The thermal printer takes only 3 seconds to issue a ticket as compared to the 20 seconds taken by the dot matrix printer used presently. The process would be much faster, thereby making it quicker for the public to purchase them," Chaitanya said.

On the other hand, when it comes to traditional printers, the ribbon cartridge should be changed after printing 1,000 tickets to ensure the impression is readable. "This need not be carried out in the case of thermal printers. Each counter stands to save Rs 52 on a daily basis, making it slightly economical too," the SDCM said.

The printers which made their debut on Sunday issued 100 tickets each. "Since it was the launch, only a limited number was issued. They will be fully utilised on Monday," he added.

By October 2025, the Division plans to issue 90% of its tickets through thermal printers only.

17k potholes reported from April to Dec 19

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

IN the eight months between April and December 19, the BBMP reported that the city had 16,940 potholes and of them, 9,442 have been fixed. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) engineering department stated that many complaints were about the same potholes and were listed under the 'rejected' category.

The BBMP that had launched a mobile app, Rasthe Gundi Gamana (Pothole Attention), to report potholes across the city could source the data from both public as well as BBMP engineers.

"5,212 such pothole complaints were rejected as they were repeated and now the Palike is tasked with completing 1,974 potholes and the work on 615 such potholes or bad stretches has already begun. The Palike will complete the work," said a senior engineer.

The BBMP spends approximately Rs 45 crore annually to fix potholes across eight zones covering 32,200 square metre of roads, he added.

Earlier, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath had said that Rs 15 lakh is given per ward to fix potholes and repair roads.

In the first week of September, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah toured the city as complaints of bad roads and potholes were being reported daily. The BBMP chief briefed the CM that Rs 659.71 crore worth of asphalting of road measuring 1,611 km would be taken up in November and completed by March-end. Accordingly, the work is being taken up on many such roads.

"As it continued to rain even in December, the work of fixing potholes was delayed. For a quick fix and as a temporary solution, wet mix and ecofix technology is being used. Now that the rain has stopped, the road asphalting work will be hastened," said an engineer.

MYRIAD COLOURS

Metro pillars along the Yellow Line painted with murals of people from all walks of life, at Huskur in Bengaluru | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

'Constitutional institutions preserve democracy'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FROM the intricate workings of constitutional institutions to the legacy of Justice ES Venkataramiah, Justice PS Narasimha of the Supreme Court shed light on crucial aspects of India's legal framework in an event organised by the National Law School of India University on Sunday.

Speaking at the event, Justice Narasimha emphasised the vital role constitutional institutions play in preserving the nation's democracy, often in the background but with enormous influence in upholding justice.

Speaking on the topic 'Reimagining Constitutional Institutions: Integrity, Efficiency, and Accountability,' he examined the critical role of constitutional institutions in ensuring democratic governance.

The event honoured the legacy of Justice ES Venkataramiah, the 19th Chief Justice of India, whose profound contributions to the judiciary and legal education have shaped India's constitutional landscape.

In his lecture, Justice Narasimha explored the pressing need to reconsider the role of constitutional institutions such as the Election Commission, the Central Vigilance Commission, and the Public Service Commissions. The lecture highlighted the significance of what Justice Narasimha refers to as the 'Fourth Branch Institutions'— bodies that support and protect constitutional democracy. "These institutions, such as the Election Commission and the Information Commission, play an integral role in holding power-wielding officials accountable and ensuring the smooth functioning of democratic processes," he said. With a focus on improving institutional efficiency, he argued that constitutional institutions are essential in achieving democratic governance and in upholding constitutional values.

EXPRESS READ

200 teams take part in Christ varsity's Cognito

Bengaluru: The 17th edition of Cognito, organized by the 'festing team' of the Department of Professional Studies at Christ University, concluded on Friday. This year's theme, Cognito Cabinet, focused on government consultancy and saw participation from over 200 teams globally across three competitive formats: Contingent Event, Business Case Competition, and Business Quiz. Cognito Conclave featured an impressive lineup of guest speakers, including Sanjeev Singh, Principal Commissioner, Income Tax, India, Vivek Krishna, Vice-President - Finance at Rapido, and head of investments at Rainmatter Dinesh Pai. Business Quiz was hosted by celebrity quizmaster and stand-up comedian Kumar Varun. Day 2 of Cognito 2024 offered participants a unique off-site experience as the events were hosted at the Miles Education corporate office in Koramangala.

Alliance University hosts 13th convocation

Bengaluru: Alliance University celebrated its 13th Convocation on their campus on Sunday. 1,145 students across undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral programmes were awarded. The ceremony awarded students across different disciplines including five honorary doctorates, two in absentia and 16 PhD graduates alongside other graduates who received gold, silver and bronze medals for their academic excellence. The event was graced by Governor of Goa, PS Sreedharan Pillai, who stressed the importance of education as a foundation for a meaningful life. "I request the students to uphold the university's values of integrity, resilience, and lifelong learning while you navigate a rapidly evolving world," he said while adding how adaptability and commitment to learning can shape a brighter future.

'Addressing climate change can prevent mass migration to cities'

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

INFOSYS co-founder N Narayana Murthy recently warned that failure to address climate change could lead to "mass migration" to cities like Bengaluru, Pune and Hyderabad. However, experts argue that the focus should shift from alarming predictions of mass migration to developing climate-resilient cities with actionable plans.

Experts emphasise that all major Indian cities face similar challenges at different levels of severity. With no other place to escape to, experts say we must tackle these issues head-on in their own cities. The opportunities are here, and so should the solutions.

Harish Bijoor, brand guru and founder of Harish Bijoor Consults Inclusive, said that addressing the impact of climate change requires a two-fold approach, with efforts ensuring that people can continue to live comfortably in their local terrains.

"This means prioritizing the development of infrastructure in smaller towns, villages and climate-vulnerable areas. Hinterlands and regions facing harsh climate conditions must be identified, marked and equipped with necessary resources to mitigate the effects of climate change," Bijoor said, adding that planning and investment in these areas are crucial to prevent mass migration.

Megacities like Bengaluru, Pune and Hyderabad need to prepare for the inevitable influx of migrants seeking better opportunities, he stressed, highlighting that these cities are on the path to becoming "greater" versions of themselves, with far-flung areas increasingly becoming integral parts of urban life.

To effectively govern these expanding urban sprawls, municipal corporations must adapt. A single municipal corporation may no longer suffice — cities may need to be divided into multiple governing bodies, possibly five or seven, depending on their size and needs, he said.

Mass migration is already unfolding and intensifying each day, said Srinivas Alavilli, Programme Senior Fellow – Sustainable Cities and Transport at WRI India. In cities like Bengaluru, the most vulnerable migrants bear the brunt of climate change, facing severe challenges such as rising temperatures and frequent flooding, he said.

Alavilli, who is also co-founder of Citizens for Bengaluru, said Bengaluru has rolled out a Climate Action and Resilience Plan (BCAP) with a dedicated Climate Action Cell to drive its implementation. While some resident welfare associations, environmental groups, think tanks and corporate CSR teams have started working with the Climate Action Cell, progress is still in its early stages. Stronger action and wider collaboration are crucial to turn these plans into reality, he noted.

Urban planning expert Ravichandar V said climate change is an undeniable reality, and making cities resilient to its impacts is necessary. He noted that Bengaluru and other major urban hubs face similar challenges, such as flooding, water scarcity, traffic congestion and massive garbage landfills.

Finding solutions to these pressing problems requires collaboration among all key stakeholders, including business leaders, politicians and policy makers, he said.

Daily Starscope

PETER VIDAL

23RD December : Have you heard about the 'responsive universe'? It's the latest idea about the way that astrology works. The theory is that we create theories about the way that the universe works, and the universe then responds. In other words, we create astrology in order to understand our lives, and the university co-operates! It may be strange but it's not the strangest thing I've heard!

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
The crunch is due at work very soon, probably within days if the stars are to have their way. Those Ariens who are ladies, or gentlemen, of leisure, will find that their glittering achievements are brought out for public scrutiny before the week is over.

TAURUS (Apr. 21 - May 21)
Please do yourself a favour and avoid all legal complications this week, even if we're only talking about traffic fines or overdue library books. On the other hand, take a stand on an issue of principle and you'll attract unparalleled respect and admiration.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
I am afraid that I keep coming back to your financial affairs. The reason is strictly astrological: according to your solar chart you are passing through a long-term cycle in which issues of financial security and independence are of very deep importance.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23)
You are divided into two groups this week. June Cancers are entering a state of personal independence and liberation: those with July birthdays should concentrate on security, tradition and existing ways of doing things. It's all a matter of maintaining harmony and balance, you see.

LEO (July 24 - Aug. 23)
You are divided into two groups this week. June Cancers are entering a state of personal independence and liberation: those with July birthdays should concentrate on security, tradition and existing ways of doing things. It's all a matter of maintaining harmony and balance, you see.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You may find yourself in a classic Virgoan dilemma this week, by which I mean that your natural passion and enthusiasm may conflict with your equally strong inhibitions and fear of taking a risk. Your expenses still seem to be rising as well, although you'll hit a prosperous streak next week.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
This is not a week for compromise. But, then, neither is it a time to hold on to attitudes and positions that have been left behind by events, and probably never did you that much good, anyway. You've got to be firm - with yourself as well as with partners.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
The week's stars will undoubtedly favour your interests, even if you'll meet one or two challenges along the way. Fortunately, the Sun is offering you overall protection, leaving you free to make a nuisance of yourself as you think fit. Be the first with an apology if anything goes wrong, though.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 22)
Please don't groan if I once again talk about your financial affairs. You are nearing the end of one particular short-term phase, and your chances of prosperity over the next three months will depend on how you handle an emotional mini-crisis this week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23 - Jan. 20)
The week's challenging and energetic alignments may be used constructively if you wish, and any conflict may be turned to your advantage. In the long run, January Goats are more likely to be affected than those of you with December birthdays.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
The Aquarian Water Carrier is the bearer of fresh possibilities and new potential to the whole of mankind. Even on your small scale, you are quite capable of showing other people a better way to live. Teach them by example, but try to learn from their experiences.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar 20)
Your social commitments are expanding. Many of you have now become involved in a formal group activity. This week, the real nature of your responsibilities will become clear and you will have to decide whether to carry on or drop out. You'll try to find a compromise, but I don't think it will last.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

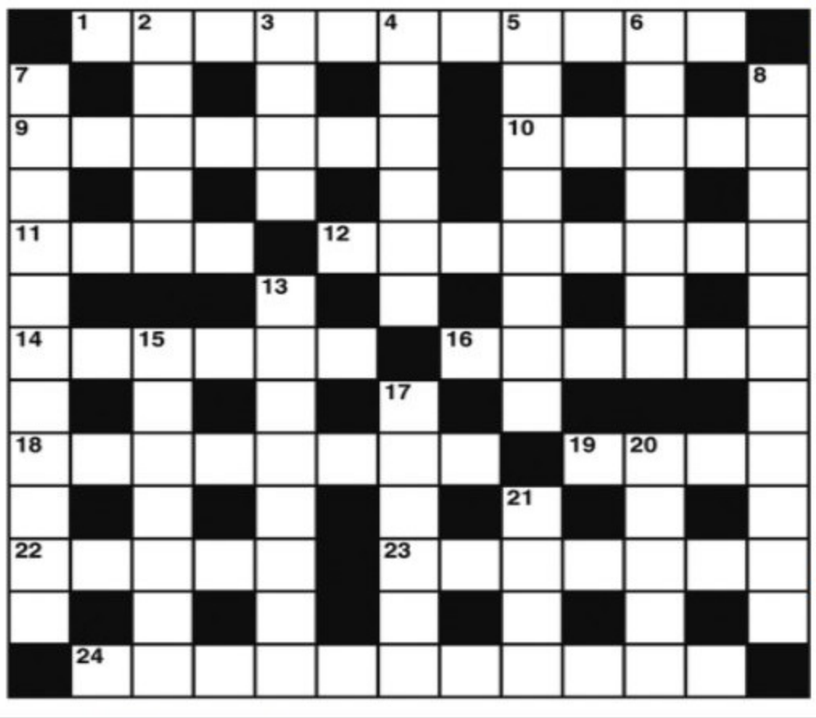
	8					1	9	
	9	6			4	2		5
		3	9	7				
		7	2		1			3
3	6						8	2
5			6		3	4		
				3	9	8		
6		4	1			7	2	
	1	9					5	

7	4	5	8	2	9	3	6	1
3	2	8	4	6	1	7	9	5
9	1	6	7	5	3	4	8	2
8	7	1	2	3	6	9	5	4
4	9	2	5	8	7	6	1	3
6	5	3	1	9	4	2	7	8
1	3	4	9	7	5	8	2	6
2	6	7	3	1	8	5	4	9
5	8	9	6	4	2	1	3	7

SUDOKU EASY

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 It swims with the current (8,3)
9 Nothing to share but words (7)
10 Leaps into an indiscretion (5)
11 A pre-match fling (4)
12 Two things a lodger may be given with the piano (8)
14 Is embarrassed coming out of purdah (4,2)
16 A golfer won't take it lying down (6)
18 Be on the way to appearing proper (8)
19 Tree house? (4)
22 Boyfriend may be simply left and forgotten (5)
23 Ends interim arrangements (7)
24 Cynic wrecks the Klondike's first refiner (11)

DOWN
2 Live wires taken on stage perhaps (5)
3 Golf shot that's been sliced (4)
4 Wandered out of danger (6)
5 Unusually bad cloth may make the skin tingle (4,4)
6 Account for what is no longer clear (7)
7 Kick the account around or pay up (4,3,4)
8 Having no grave doubts? (4,7)
13 Duck when beer mugs are thrown around (8)
15 Make a successful comeback as an upholsterer? (7)
17 Quickly take a few notes maybe (6)
20 He's forced to live off his land (5)
21 New barn for grain husks (4)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Weevil, 4 Scotland, 9 Isabel, 10 Scrabble, 12 Ever, 13 Andes, 14 Area, 17 False modesty, 20 Hand over fist, 23 Elies, 24 Seven, 25 Bear, 28 Stolidly, 29 Accede, 30 Eyesight, 31 Person.

Down: 1 Write off, 2 Elatedly, 3 Item, 5 Cockeyed view, 6 Thaw, 7 Albert, 8 Deejay, 11 Untold wealth, 15 Lehar, 16 Stare, 18 Lifeless, 19 Sturgeon, 21 Les see, 22 Before, 26 Mini, 27 Acme.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

NUHMC

NIWTE

GWLAEG

KROEOI

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

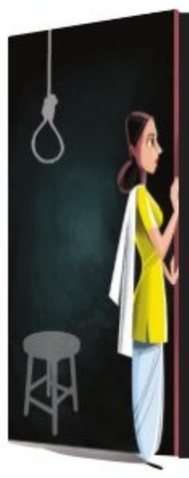
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: OUNCE PRANK COUNTY DEFUSE
Answer: The group of killer whales were discussing ideas for their next — PODCAST

A jet ski rider is reportedly missing after he allegedly lost control while riding it with a tourist off Trasi beach in Udupi on Saturday. The missing person is Rohidas alias Ravi (41). The police said the incident took place on Saturday when Rohidas went jet skiing with a tourist at 5.30 pm. About 50 m from the shore, Rohidas lost control owing to the gigantic waves, causing both of them to fall into the sea

PROVING ABETMENT TO SUICIDE A HERCULEAN TASK, FEEL EXPERTS

Bengaluru sees 388 cases registered in three years with 0 conviction rate



ABETMENT TO SUICIDE CASES

YEAR	CASES	ACQUITTAL	PENDING TRIAL	CONVICTION
2022	139	1	98	0
2023	133	1	90	0
2024*	116	0	44	0

(* till December 16, 2024)

> If the suicide is due to torture or harassment, the allegations must be direct, substantial enough to frame a person for abetment, and corroborated by cogent evidence
>
> Senior advocate Rajalaxmi Ankalagi

RECENT INCIDENTS

Atul Subhash (34), a software engineer, ended his life allegedly due to harassment by his wife and in-laws, in Bengaluru. Subhash left behind a 24-page death note and a 90-minute video statement

A 35-year-old businesswoman took the extreme step allegedly after being harassed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) of the CID. She left behind an 11-page death note

A 33-year-old constable attached to Hulimavu police station in Bengaluru died by suicide, after jumping in front of a moving train. Tippanna Alugur, in his death note, accused his wife and father-in-law of harassment

RAKSHITH GOWDA @ Bengaluru

WHILE the police have registered 'abetment to suicide' charges against the accused in the Atul Subhash suicide case, experts opine that proving abetment to suicide cases is a very difficult task. Bengaluru has seen 388 abetment to suicide cases in the last three years, yet the conviction rate remains at an alarming 0.

According to the data, 116 cases have been registered in 2024 (up to December), with 44 cases pending trial and 72 under investigation. In 2023 and 2022, 133 and 139 cases were registered, respectively.

Atul Subhash (34), a techie, died by suicide in Bengaluru on December 9. He had left behind a 24-page suicide note, a 90-minute video, and a checklist accusing his wife and in-laws of harassment. While his wife, Nikita Singhania, was arrested from Gurugram, Haryana, her mother, Nisha, and brother, Anurag, were picked up from Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh.

Abetment to suicide is an offense under Section 106 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which states that if someone abets, entices, or compels another person to commit suicide, they can be punished. This section previously fell under Section 306 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The punishment for this crime is up to 10 years of imprisonment and a fine.

Speaking to *The New Indian Express*, senior advocate Rajalaxmi Ankalagi said that in abetment to suicide cases, it is crucial to first determine whether the victim's decision to end his or her life was based on personal perception or real circumstances. Most abetment to suicide cases involve victims who were subjected to harassment, torture, or mental pressure, Ankalagi said. "In some cases, such as dowry and harassment-related deaths, family members of the victim often file a complaint alleging abetment to suicide against the in-laws. In extreme cases, the matter becomes far more serious. The reason behind such an extreme step could be psychological, suicidal tendencies, or unbearable torture. If the suicide is due to torture or harassment, the allegations must be direct, substantial enough to frame a person for abetment, and corroborated by cogent evidence to secure a conviction," she said.

Ankalagi further added that in abetment to suicide cases, most of the time it is only circumstantial evidence available, which makes trial difficult. "Allegations should be direct, coherent, and supported by strong evidence; only then can a conviction be secured. Cases supported by video recordings, statements, or death notes are often proven beyond a reasonable doubt. Even in these cases, if the intention is not proved, it is fatal for investigation," she added.

Ankalagi remarked that the lack of convictions in such cases is atrocious. She noted that cases with collaborative evidence, including death notes and video statements, should result in convictions, while other cases lacking concrete evidence may lead to acquittals.

Former Director General and Inspector General of Police S T Ramesh said that 'abetment to suicide' means that someone contributed for causing another person's suicide. "Abetment, by nature, is similar to conspiracy. However, proving abetment cases is challenging, much like conspiracy cases, as they require strong evidence. Often, individuals who commit suicide may not leave sufficient evidence behind," he said.

Ramesh explained that the evidence in such cases may be oral, but oral evidence alone is often insufficient. "If there is proper documentary evidence, it strengthens the case. Even circumstantial evidence can be challenging to prove. On the other hand, medical and forensic evidence can be very compelling," he added.

Ramesh elaborated on the difficulty of proving abetment to suicide cases. "The primary reason is the lack of strong evidence in such cases. A suicide note, for instance, may serve as a piece of evidence, similar to a dying declaration. It is based on the principle—truth sits upon the lips of dying men. It is believed that someone about to die would not lie. However, a suicide note alone is not always sufficient. Multiple pieces of corroborative evidence are often required to build a strong case," he said.

He further added that conviction cannot be based on a single person's statement or a single piece of evidence. "Abetment to suicide is inherently difficult to prove due to a host of other reasons apart from delays in trials, a lack of concrete evidence, and witnesses turning hostile. These factors contribute to the low conviction rates in such cases," he added.

FURBALLS GRAB SPOTLIGHT

Fashion guru Prasad Bidapa (extreme left) and Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh (second from left) at Santa Bow Wow 2024 at Cubbon Park in Bengaluru on Sunday | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

NELAMANGALA CRASH

Cops say no proof to link blue car which stopped to accident

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

A day after the CEO of a Bengaluru-based software company and five of his family members, including three children, died on the spot when a container truck toppled and crushed their car on Saturday on Tumakuru Road, the driver of the truck is still in hospital, and is set to undergo surgery on Monday. Police are awaiting his discharge to carry on with their investigation.

Meanwhile, police denied reports that they are searching for a blue car that allegedly caused the truck to slow down and overturn. The officer questioned the existence of evidence linking the blue car to the accident, which is claimed to be the reason for the mishap.

Six people, including three children, were crushed to death after a container lorry toppled on their car on Saturday

A senior officer said the truck driver, identified as Harsif Ansari from Jharkhand, will undergo a leg surgery on Monday. "After he is discharged from hospital, we will take him into custody. We have seized the truck that caused the accident."

Nelamangala Traffic Police registered a case under Section 106 (causing death by negligence) of the BNS, based on a complaint filed by the deceased Chandram Yegapagol's brother. The case is investigated by the DySP Nelamangala. Investigations are continuing.

The family of six was travelling to their hometown in Vijayapura from Bengaluru, when the ill-fated container carrying 40 tonnes of cement poles lost control near Talakere on NH-4. The accident occurred when the truck, attempting to avoid rear-ending a car that reportedly slowed down abruptly in front of it, crossed the median, overturned and crushed a car in the opposite lane around 11am Saturday. The last rites of the six victims were held at their hometown on Sunday.

BESCOM officials harass doctor in city, 'extort' Rs 20,000

MOHAMMED YACOOB @Bengaluru

BANGALORE Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) officials from Horamavu allegedly extorted Rs 20,000 from an alternative medicine doctor for running a clinic from home. Assistant Engineer (AE) Veeresh and his associate Subramanian, a meter reader, threatened to terminate the power connection if their demands were not met.

Another meter reader Sudarshan V had collected Rs 20,000 through UPI allegedly on behalf of Subramanian and Veeresh last Friday. The money was supposed to be paid to Subramanian who looks after Kothanur area, the victim, Dr Anush Solomon Joy, said.

"I was threatened with a fine of Rs 1 lakh by Assistant Engineer Veeresh and his colleague Subramanian. I was not prepared to pay the amount, because I knew that I had not violated the law. But when they said they will terminate power supply, I had to succumb to their threat and paid Rs 20,000, followed by Rs 10,000 as a bribe. They said I should immediately pay Rs 20,000, and I said that I can pay only via UPI. They insisted that the payment should be made on an unknown man's UPI account. The amount they asked to me pay the next day was another Rs 10,000 in cash. So, the total bribe demanded was Rs 30,000, which was initially Rs 50,000 before bargaining," said Dr Anush Solomon Joy.

As the matter was discussed with an activist by the victim, he convinced him to go public about it. When *The New Indian Express* contacted the meter readers, they agreed to have collected the amount, and Subramanian said he did it at the behest of a person linked to an elected representative and said he would return the amount.

The accused persons also returned the money through UPI. Veeresh, when contacted, denied any role and said the meter readers are on contract basis.

EXPRESS READ

Rowdy-sheeter booked under Goonda Act

BENGALURU: A rowdy-sheeter has been booked under the stringent Goonda Act following an order from the city police commissioner. The accused identified as Anil Kumar alias Anil Reddy, was reportedly involved in a prostitution ring in the city. Kumar has four cases registered against him at Mahadevapura police station in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, involving human trafficking and rape charges. A press release stated that Kumar was operating prostitution rackets by luring foreign and out-of-state women under the guise of offering high-paying spa jobs in Bengaluru and Andhra Pradesh. Through human trafficking, these women were forced into prostitution. To effectively curb such external human trafficking and prostitution activities, the Goonda Act was invoked. Acting on a proposal from the Mahadevapura police and CCB officials, city police commissioner B Dayananda ordered the detention of Kumar under the Goonda Act. He has been sent to Bellary Jail. **ENS**

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Union Minister and former CM HD Kumaraswamy apologised to the people for starting 1,000 English medium schools with low fees in the state. Speaking during the valedictory of the 87th Kannada Sahitya Sammelana in Mandya on Sunday, Kumaraswamy said his intention to start English medium schools was to ensure rural children learn the language and not to cause harm to Kannada language

URBAN GENDER BENDER: MEN AS VICTIMS OF MARITAL HARASSMENT?

RISHITA KHANNA @Bengaluru

WHILE women have historically borne the brunt of patriarchy, two recent suicides in Bengaluru — that of a techie and a head police constable — have brought attention to the complexities faced by men in urban marriages.

In both cases, victims left detailed notes accusing their wives and in-laws of causing emotional and financial distress. These cases also raise a pressing question: Would the consequences have been different if the victims were women? While law providers say the legal response would have likely been the same, police officials suggest the consequences might have been "more immediate and severe" if the roles had been reversed, revealing the complexities of how gender dynamics influence legal and social reactions.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) 2022 data, men accounted for 1,22,724 suicides of a total of 1,70,896 — which is 71.81 per cent of all suicides. NCRB data also reveals that family problems and marriage-related issues were the leading causes of suicide in metropolitan cities, accounting for 32.5 per cent of the cases.

LACKING EVIDENCE: EXPERTS

Experts in marriage litigation, police officials and marriage counsellors told *The New Indian Express* that cases of women filing complaints against their husbands and families, accusing them of threats and torture, have become increasingly common. In these cases, a woman's statement is often presumed to be the truth, placing the burden of proof on the husband to disprove the allegations.

This dynamic leaves many men with two options – either concede to the woman's demands to end the legal battle or continue fighting, often facing a prolonged and challenging process. Experts note that despite this, many of these cases ultimately have a low conviction rate, as they are frequently found to be false or unsubstantiated.

Moreover, advocates highlight that in marriage, the dynamics of abuse and lack of clear documentation often make these cases highly complex. In such situations, a woman's statement is often considered at face value, creating a significant imbalance in the legal process.

In the case of Atul Subhash, the techie who died by suicide after alleging extortion and harassment by his estranged wife and her family, had expressed being under extreme stress as he was forced to travel at least 40 times between Bengaluru and Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh for court appearances, which added to the emotional and financial strain he was already facing.

Police officials say they have observed a growing number of domestic violence and sexual harassment cases in progressive cities. While the increase is partly attributed to more women reporting these incidents, police officers also point out that some women file dowry harassment or sexual harassment cases when mutual divorce proceedings stall. These cases are often prioritized and processed quickly through the legal system. Meanwhile, divorce proceedings themselves continue to be delayed, leaving the accused in a prolonged legal struggle.

A senior police official, on condition of anonymity, said that at the ground level in police stations, complaints pile up as divorce proceedings drag on, with the judiciary holding the power to intervene but often choosing not to. "In cases like Atul Subhash's, where baseless charges could be scrutinized and dismissed, why do lives remain in limbo?" the official questioned.

There is a seeming role reversal in new-age urban marriages — men are subjected to abuse, extortion and prolonged legal battles from demanding wives

JUDICIARY DOESN'T INTERVENE

What made Atul's ordeal even more heart-breaking was his forced separation from his four-year-old son. Police officials noted that in many mutual divorce cases, women often make unreasonable demands, such as visitation charges.

In Atul's case, his wife, Nikita Singhania, allegedly demanded Rs 30 lakh to allow him to see their son. But can someone really charge such a hefty amount for visitation rights, police officials question.

Sahini M, a family court lawyer, explains that in most legal systems, visitation charges are determined by court and are meant to cover reasonable costs like transportation, not serve as a tool for financial manipulation. However, police officials say that if one party demands an unreasonable amount, should the courts not step in? Courts have the authority to intervene in cases where visitation rights are used as a form of extortion or manipulation, an officer says.

Police officials agree that laws are designed to favour women, aiming to counterbalance historical societal advantages given to men. However, they also ask if the judiciary should not be questioned in cases like these. The court holds the power to act impartially, ensuring that fairness prevails beyond gender biases, police officials say, questioning if the legal system should allow one-sided advantages to persist.

While Bengaluru police were investigating Atul's case, 33-year-old Tippanna Alugur, a head constable at Hulimavu police station, was found dead on railway tracks near Baiyappanahalli. Alugur blamed his wife Parvathi and father-in-law Yamanappa for his death in a two-page suicide note. "I am ending my life after being fed up with harassment by my wife," Alugur wrote.

SUICIDE AND LONG-TERM TRAUMA

While many may view such extreme actions as impulsive, psychologists emphasize that they are often the result of trauma over time.

Dr Divya Shree KR, Consultant, Psychiatry, at Aster CMI Hospital, highlights that emotional and psychological abuse, often overlooked in such cases, has devastating effect especially when compounded by legal battles and financial stress.

"When a person, particularly a man, feels trapped in an emotional and financial bind with nowhere to turn, pressure can build to a point where extreme actions, like suicide, may seem like the only way out," Dr Divya said, adding that in many cases, men are not equipped or encouraged to express their vulnerability, which makes them more likely to internalise their distress, ultimately leading to a breakdown.

WOMAN SEEKS INDEPENDENCE

Several people have pointed to cases where women, especially in urban areas, push men to their limits, either by demanding financial support or by forcing them to distance themselves from their families to avoid conflict. This pattern is often observed in situations where men are unable or unwilling to meet these demands, resulting in prolonged conflict and in many cases, further legal battles. The strain from such ongoing disputes can contribute to emotional distress, escalating the risk of severe actions.

Dr Divya explains that many women, specifically in the urban space, want to live independently with their husbands because they have witnessed the dominance of parents or in-laws within their families, and seek to avoid repeating those dynamics. For them, living separately is a way to establish their autonomy and redefine their roles in marriage. This desire often stems from a modern interpretation of feminism, where independence and control are seen as key to achieving equality in relationships. However, when these expectations clash with traditional family structures, it can lead to tension and conflict, Dr Divya says.

While lawyers argue that cases like Atul's cannot be linked to abetment due to a lack of direct evidence or proximity, Nithin, a member of the Save Indian Family Foundation, slammed this notion. He questioned how the case would have been handled if the roles were reversed, with a woman dying by suicide and leaving behind a detailed note. "Wouldn't the man have been arrested immediately if a woman were involved?" he asked, pointing out the bias in handling such cases.

Nithin also highlighted the rising number of cases where men are trapped, with women insisting that their husbands stop supporting their parents financially. He criticised the legal system for its lack of neutrality, emphasizing that laws should be more balanced. He also raised the issue of dowry complaints, questioning, "If an independent woman can file a dowry harassment complaint, why should she still be entitled to alimony or maintenance?"

ALIENATION FROM CHILD

Lawyers dealing with marriage litigation cases highlight that many cases involving children often lead to alienation of the child, particularly from the father. They point out that in numerous instances, women violate court orders, such as failing to bring the children for scheduled visits, and simply pay fines without facing serious consequences. This lack of strict enforcement, experts argue, not only contributes to the growing issue of parental alienation but also undermines the fairness of the legal system.

KP Niranjan, a family court lawyer in Bengaluru, explained that in most divorce cases, custody of children often goes to the mother, as per the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956, and the Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, which prioritize the child's welfare. These laws generally assume that mothers are better suited to care for younger children, under the 'Tender Years Doctrine', he said. However, this often leads to fathers feeling alienated, with limited visitation rights.

Despite being emotionally attached, fathers are frequently sidelined, with the law reinforcing cultural norms that caregiving is a mother's responsibility, Niranjan said.

Experts admit that such assumptions overlook the father's role and fail to consider the best interests of the child on a case-by-case basis. This neglect of the father's emotional needs and his relationship with the child often contributes to extreme actions, such as suicide, among men.

If an independent woman can file a dowry harassment complaint, why should she still be entitled to alimony or maintenance?

Nithin, a member of the Save Indian Family Foundation

REMARKS ON DR AMBEDKAR

'Not spontaneous, but deliberate': Cong MLC lambasts Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

SENIOR Congress MLC **BK Hariprasad** on Sunday hit out at the BJP and RSS saying that it was "ridiculous" for them to preach about patriotism when in the past they have opposed the country's national flag and the Constitution.

Addressing the media in Bengaluru, Hariprasad said that the Congress will launch a series of protests against Union Minister Amit Shah for his recent remarks on Dr BR Ambedkar from Monday from Mysuru.

Demanding an apology from Shah, Hariprasad said the former's statement was of "low-level" and "condemnable", only reflecting the RSS' "long-standing intolerance" towards Dr Ambedkar and the Constitution. "It is the hidden agenda of the RSS to change the Constitution," the Congress leader said, accusing the RSS of opposing the Constitution, the national flag and the reservation system.

Hariprasad also criticised the BJP's attempts to divert attention from Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's demand for a caste census by making anti-Ambedkar statements. He said that the Congress would continue to fight for to protect the Constitution and Dr Ambedkar's legacy.

Furthermore, Hariprasad accused the Sangh Parivar of spreading misinformation and being "addicts and perverts".

Replying to Union Minister Pralhad Joshi's statement that the Congress allegedly tried to subject MLC C T Ravi to a fake encounter, Hariprasad said that Shah was known for such acts and was sent in exile from Gujarat in the past. "Joshi is an ilk of Amit Shah and the former uttered what the latter had taught him," Hariprasad said.

"BJP's intentions are clear — to align themselves with the upper caste and disregard the development of Dalits, backward classes and minorities," he said, adding that Shah's statement was not a spontaneous outburst, but a deliberate and calculated move.

BJP's intentions are clear — to align themselves with the upper caste and disregard the development of Dalits, backward classes and minorities

BK Hariprasad, Congress MLC

Sarangi a murderer, says Hariprasad

Hariprasad questioned the integrity of former union minister Pratap Chandra Sarangi who had alleged that Rahul Gandhi had assaulted him.

"He (Sarangi) apparently looks like a saint by his attire but was the murderer of Australian Christian Missionary Graham Staines and two of his minor children in 1999. He was the Bajrang Dal chief when its activists executed the murder by setting Staines' four-wheeler on fire but escaped punishment owing to lack of evidence. Another culprit Dharasingh, whom senior BJP leader LK Advani termed as an innocent, was given capital punishment by the court which was converted to life term imprisonment," Hariprasad claimed.

CM: We have audio, video proof of Ravi using invective in Council

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kalaburagi

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday said audio and video evidence exists to prove that BJP MLC CT Ravi used derogatory remarks against Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar on the floor of the Council in Belagavi on December 19.

Speaking to the media in Kalaburagi, Siddaramaiah said that the words used by MLC CT Ravi against minister Laxmi Hebbalkar amount to a "criminal offence".

The CM said that several MLCs witnessed the incident. "The incident is highly condemnable. It amounts to a criminal offence," Siddaramaiah said, adding that none of the BJP leaders condemned Ravi for his action.

Ravi, a former minister, was arrested for allegedly using abusive language against Hebbalkar inside the Council on the last day of the winter session of the legislature in Belagavi on December 19. Later, he was granted bail by a court.

Ravi was arrested for allegedly using abusive language against the Woman and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar inside the Council on the concluding day of the winter session of the state legislature in Belagavi on December 19. He was later granted bail by court.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and others after the inauguration of 371-bed facility of Jayadeva Hospital in Kalaburagi on Sunday | EXPRESS

It is highly condemnable... It amounts to a criminal offence
— Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

Without media's live coverage, there was a real chance of police carrying out a fake encounter
— Union Minister Pralhad Joshi

While BJP preaches about culture, where has that culture gone?
— DK Suresh, ex-MP

JOSHI SAYS COPS PLANNED FAKE ENCOUNTER

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bagalkot

Union Minister and senior BJP leader Prahlad Joshi has alleged that the Belagavi police had initially planned to stage a fake encounter to eliminate BJP MLC CT Ravi.

Addressing the media in Bagalkot on Saturday, Joshi credited the media for thwarting the alleged plan by ensuring transparency through their live coverage.

He said that the vigilance of local journalists, who provided real-time updates, played a critical role in exposing the situation.

According to Joshi, some reporters even climbed onto police vehicles late at night to record footage and broadcast live updates about Ravi's arrest. Their actions, Joshi said, prevented any potential misconduct by the police. "We must thank the media for their proactive approach. Without their timely intervention and live coverage, there was a real possibility of the police carrying out a fake encounter," Joshi remarked. He emphasised that the presence of cameras and the dissemination of real-time information acted as a deterrent, forcing the police to act in a transparent manner.

The incident has drawn widespread attention, with questions being raised about the actions of the Belagavi police and the broader implications of Joshi's allegations. While details of the arrest and the events leading up to it remain under scrutiny, Joshi's statement has added a controversial dimension to the case, prompting demands for further investigation.

The allegations come amid heightened political tensions in the region, with opposition parties calling for clarity on the matter.

BJP MLC faces backlash; religious heads, netas slam remark

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

WHILE Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has strongly hit out at BJP MLC **CT Ravi** calling his remarks against Women and Child Development Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar "a criminal offence", political leaders and religious heads have also strongly condemned Ravi.

Basavajaya Mrutyunjaya Swamiji of the Kudalsangama Panchamasali Lingayat Peetha, also lambasted Ravi. "We will not tolerate such foul language used by an MLC against Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar. This is utterly disgraceful. There is no question of tolerating any form of disrespect towards women in India," the seer said, stressing the need for respect towards women in every sphere of life.

MLA Vijayanand Kashappanavar, a prominent Lingayat Panchamsali leader, condemned Ravi with equal vigour. "It is no surprise that Ravi's remarks reflect the toxic culture fostered by the BJP. We elect representatives to serve the people, not to indulge in cheap rhetoric," he added. Kashappanavar further referred to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's previous remark that "CT Ravi's tongue and brain are not connected," which he said aptly explained Ravi's inconsiderate comments.

Former MP DK Suresh said, "Do the behaviour and comments of CT Ravi about women reflect well on the BJP?" He went on to highlight the hypocrisy within the BJP, asking, "While BJP leaders preach about culture, where has that culture gone? Is this the culture that RSS advocates?" He demanded that the RSS, which is supposed to instill values in BJP leaders, take responsibility and rein in their actions.

Suresh also accused the media of failing to hold Ravi accountable, saying, "How come there is no condemnation from any BJP leader about Ravi's comments? Why do media outlets continue to support them when they fail to condemn the insults directed at women?"

Suresh warned, "People perceive Kannadigas as cultured. But with the growing hostility and derogatory remarks from BJP leaders towards women, isn't the state's honour being tarnished? Over the last decade, BJP leaders' misconduct towards women has only increased, signalling a dangerous decline in values. This growing trend of ridicule and mockery is unacceptable. I urge everyone to be vigilant and act responsibly."

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Man mows down bro with tractor over property row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Belagavi

A man allegedly murdered his younger brother over a property dispute in Yaragatti town of Saundatti taluk in Belagavi district. The accused, Maruti Bhavihal (30), was arrested within 24 hours of the crime.

The deceased has been identified as Gopal Bhavihal (27), a resident of Yaragatti town of Saundatti taluk. According to sources, the brothers, sons of farmer Arjun Bhavihal, had an ongoing dispute over their ancestral property. Despite dividing the property and family assets, including three tractors, just 10 days ago, tensions remained high between the siblings. Gopal, an alcoholic, frequently quarrelled with his family over his share.

However, conflict escalated when Gopal kept his tractor at his wife's house, angering Maruti, who believed the tractor was purchased by their father. Following repeated arguments, Maruti allegedly planned to end the dispute permanently and hatched a plan to murder his younger brother.

On Friday evening, when Gopal was travelling on his two-wheeler on Budigoppa Road, Maruti followed him on his tractor and rammed into him. He did not stop his tractor until Gopal died. On a tip-off, police from Murgod station reached the spot and sent the body for an autopsy.

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CORRIGENDUM

With reference to the Sale Notice dated 06.12.2024 published in The New Indian Express and Samyuktha Karnataka on 06.12.2024 pertaining to Mr. V Pujapraveenkumar, The Time for submission of EMD is extended to till 11 AM on 23.12.2024. The interested Bidders may submit their tender on or before the above said Date and Time and schedule of the property details as under :

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Other contents of the said notice remain same.

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Date: 22.12.2024

IN THE COURT OF 1st ADDL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU
O.S No. 1802/2019

BETWEEN: 1. Smt. RANGAMMA, D/o late Narasappa, W/o Munirajappa, Aged about 62 years, Residing at, Shivakote Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluku, Bengaluru-560089. **2. SMT. SUDHEELAMMA,** D/o late Narasappa, W/o Rangahanumaiah, Aged about 58 years, Residing at, Doddabelakere Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Yelahanka Taluku, Bengaluru-560089. **3. SMT. RADHAMMA,** D/O late Narasappa, W/o Siddaraju, Aged about 60 years, Hosakere Road, Thyamagondlu Village, Thyamagondlu Post & Hobli, Nelamangala Taluku, Bengaluru Rural District ... **PLAINTIFFS**

AND: 1. Sri. Lakshminarayana, S/o late Narasappa, Aged about 60 years, R/at Veerasagara Village, Atturu Post, Yelahanka Hobli, Yelahanka Taluku, Bangalore-560064.

2. SRI. KRISHNA BHAT, S/o Late Shankar Bhat, Aged about 45 years, Mundathaje House, Post Berebettu, Via Manchi, Kolnad Village, Bantwal Taluku, Dakshina Kannada District ... **DEFENDANTS**

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANTS No. 2

WHEREAS, the above named plaintiffs have instituted the above numbered suit against you for partition and separate possession etc., in respect of Sy. No. 21/1, measuring 01 Acre 18 Guntas including 01 Gunta Kharab situated at, Atturu Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Yelahanka Taluku, Bengaluru you are hereby summoned to appear before the I Additional Senior Civil Judge Bengaluru Rural District, at Bengaluru in person or by pleader duly instructed to answer all the questions relating to the suit on **17-02-2025** at 11.00 A.M. to answer the claim. Failing which you will be placed Exparte.

East by : Property bearing No. 21/5, **West by:** Veerasagar Village boundary, **North by:** Property of Veeranjappa, **South by:** Land bearing Sy. No. 21/2 of Atturu Village.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on 20-12-2024.

By order of the court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Senior civil Judge court Bangalore rural district, Bangalore.

K.R. SATHISH, Advocate
No. 740, 5th 'A' Cross, 7 th 'A' Main, Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru-560064.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients 1) **Sri. J.Hanuman Murthy,** S/o. Late.V Jaypal, 2) **Smt H. Bhagyalakshmi,** W/o Sri J. Hanuman Murthy are intending to purchase the Property mentioned in the Schedule from 1. **Sri.Muruli N,** Aged about 38 Years, S/o. Sri. Narayanappa, financial institutions and the General Public are hereby notified that if anybody has any claims, charges, lien etc., if any in respect of the schedule property may approach the undersigned with documentary proof relied upon within Seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, my client proceeds to complete the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing No. 63 Old No.8/1, PID No.47-117-63, situated at 2nd Cross, previously known as 3rd Cross, Cubbonpet, measuring East to West 36.6 feet and North to South 26.6 feet having Ground, First and Second Floor with all civic amenities totally measuring 967.25 Sq.Ft and the said property is BOUNDED on the: **East by:** Joseph Puttaiah'as Property; **West by:** Cubbonpet 2nd Cross, **North by:** Sri.N.Venkataramappa's Property, **South by:** Sri.Gowda Muniswamappa's property,

Sri G. V. VASUDEVA MURTHY,
Advocate, No.37/3, 3rd Cross, Cubbonpet, Bangalore-560002

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PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my client is intending to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder from its owner Smt. Sowmya. A wife of Sri. Vasu. S. If any person/s have any right, title, claim, charge, lien, or interest over the schedule property or have any objection /s for this sale transaction, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing along with photo copies of documents on which they are relying within 15 days from the date of publication. Any objection or claim received thereafter will not be binding on my client and my client shall proceed to purchase the below mentioned schedule property as if there are no claimant/s or objection/s.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Flat bearing New Municipal No.17 A/1, (Old Flat No.002) having 2 BHK at Ground Floor (above stilt floor), Sarwari Glitz Apartment, measuring 810 sq.ft super built up area, carpet area of 703 sq.ft., with undivided share of 162 sq.ft constructed on land bearing New BBMP No.17 A, PID No.94-16-17A, (formerly bearing Khatha No.868, property No.353, vacant site No.76, assessment No.116/1), situated at 10th Cross, Lingarajapuram, Bangalore-560084

Suhaib Fazeel Madar, Advocate
No.51, 3rd 'A' Cross, Lingarajapuram
Bangalore-560084. Mobile: 99456 24111

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.100/2024

STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB J. C. Road, Bangalore . ..Applicant
Versus
Sri Saravanan Mani ...Defendant

SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant

Sri Saravanan Mani S/o. Sri Mani M. R/at No. 32, Unity Line, Ejipura Vivek Nagar, Bangalore - 560 047.

Also at : Flat No. 501, 5th Floor, Pristine Vara Apartments, Infantry Road, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore - 560 001.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993, against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.7,01,67,417/-** (Rupees Seven Crore One Lakhs Sixty Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Seventeen Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **06.02.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **06.11.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE

Original Application No.227/2024

STATE BANK OF INDIA, SARB J. C. Road, Bangalore . ..Applicant
Versus
Sri Praveen Kumar Rao ...Defendant

SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To : Sri Praveen Kumar Rao, S/o. Balwant Singh, Aged about 35 yeras, R/at: No. 3, Kumar Mansion, Dathuri Ramanna Lane, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 002.

WHEREAS, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act 1993, against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.53,74,535/-** (Rupees Fifty Three Lakhs Seventy Four Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty Five Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendants are therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **06.03.2025 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **06.11.2024.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

THE HANUMANTHANAGAR CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.,

H.O. : # 7/29, 3rd Main Road, 1st Cross, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore-560 019,
Telephone: 080-22428985, 26507976

POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule 8(1) (for immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of the **Hanumanthanagar Co-operative Bank Limited.,** H.O. : # 7/29, 3rd Main Road, 1st Cross, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore - 560 019 under the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (Second) Ordinance, 2002 (Ord.3 of 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued and demand notice calling upon the undersigned borrowers/legal heirs to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers/legal heirs having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/legal heirs and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Ordinance read with rule 8 of the said rule. The borrowers / legal heirs in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property an any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **The Hanumanthanagar Co-op. Bank Ltd.,** Head Office No.7/29, 3rd Main Road, 1st Cross, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore - 560 019.

Loanee Name	Balance Amount, Possession Date and Property Address	SCHEDULE
Smt.MahadevammaR& SriKrishnaMurthyB SriRavishankarC (SuretyHolder)	Demand Notice Dated 05.08.2024 Posession Notice Dated 17.12.2024 Balance Outstanding : Rs.23,08,187/- as on 17-12-2024 SCHEDULE All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.4, Katha No.156, Nayandahalli Village Sy.No.50, Gramatana Katha No.117, House List No.178, Sarakki Notified Area Committee Katha No.109/156, Municiple No.156, situated at 1st Main Road, Pantharapalya, Harijana Colony, now comes under B.B.M.P (Chandra Layout Range) Bangalore with PID No. 39-278-156.	East to West : 40'-00" Feet North to South : 15'-00" Feet East by : Road, West by : Road, North by : Property of Ravi Industries, South by : Property of Mahimappa.
Sri Ramesh G, Smt. Savitha K B & Smt.Padma G Sri Arkesh A G (Surety Holder)	Demand Notice Dated 05.08.2024 Posession Notice Dated 17.12.2024 Balance Outstanding : Rs.11,73,344/- as on 17.12.2024 SCHEDULE-A All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.17/1, Old No.17, situated at 2nd Cross, Ashokanagar, BSK 1st Stage, now comes under Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (Basavanagudi Range) Bangalore with PID No.51-41-17/1. SCHEDULE-B All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.17/1, Old No.17, situated at 2nd Cross, Ashokanagar, BSK 1st Stage, now comes under Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (Basavanagudi Range) Bangalore with PID No.51-41-17/1.	SCHEDULE-A East to West : 31'-9" + 40'-00" / 2 Feet North to South : 20'-00" + 27'-00" / 2 Feet East by : Property No.15/1, West by : Portion of Property No.17 & Krishnappa's Property, North by : Portion of the same Property, South by : Property No.1266/65. SCHEDULE-B East to West : 15'-5" + 16'-75" / 2 Feet North to South : 14'-00" + 17'-8" / 2 Feet East by : Portion of the same Property, West by : Road, North by : Portion of the same Property, South by : Krishnaiah's House.
Smt. Mounakshi & Sri Manje Gowda NJ Sri Manju H (Surety Holder)	Demand Notice Dated 19.09.2024 Posession Notice Dated 17.12.2024 Balance Outstanding : Rs.21,62,862/- as on 17.12.2024 SCHEDULE All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.42, Sy.No.68, Katha No.68, situated at Maruthinagara, Hegganahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, now comes under Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (Hegganahalli Sub-Division) Bangalore.	East to West : 40'-00" Feet North to South : 30'-00" Feet East by : Site No.27, West by : Road, North by : Road, South by : Site No.41.
Sri Chandra Shekar M & Kum.Harshitha Rani MC Sri Chandrashekar N (Surety Holder)	Demand Notice Dated 05.10.2024 Posession Notice Dated 17.12.2024 Balance Outstanding : Rs.31,03,451/- as on 17.12.2024 SCHEDULE All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.8, Western Portion (Old No.42) Assessment No.47, Khaneshmari No.3179/42, Gramatana Katha No.2875 Sy.No.47, 1st Cross, Nanjarasappa Layout, Nagarabhavi Village, Now Comes under B.B.M.P (Marenahalli Range) Bangalore, with PID No.35-154-8.	East to West : 15'-00" Feet North to South : 40'-00" Feet East by : Private Property, West by : Private Property, North by : Private Property, South by : Road.
Smt. Kavitha R Sri Prabhu B S Sri Ramamurthy K (Surety)	Demand Notice Dated 18-10-2024 Posession Notice Dated 17-12-2024 Balance Outstanding : Rs.23,16,332/- as on 17-12-2024 SCHEDULE – A All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Khaneshmari Janjar No.294/A, property No.13/3, situated at Bychapura Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, now comes under Anneshwara Village Panchayath, Devanahalli Taluk, with E-Katha No.150300201900700396. SCHEDULE – B All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Khaneshmari Janjar No.294, Property No.13/2, situated at Bychapura Village, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, now comes under Anneshwara Village Panchayath, Devanahalli Taluk, with E-Katha No.150300201900700396.	SCHEDULE – A East to West : 30'-00" Feet North to South : 30'-00" Feet East by : Raju's Property, West by : Muniyappa's Property, North by : Muniyappa's Property, South by : Road. SCHEDULE – B East to West : 18'-00" Feet North to South : 13'-00" Feet East by : Raju's Shop, West by : Road, North by : Muniyappa's House, South by : Common Passage.

Place: Bengaluru
Date 17.12.2024

Sd/- (Sujatha S H)
Authorised Officer and General Manager (Incharge)
The Hanumanthanagar Co-operative Bank Limited,
Bangaluru-560019.

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GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
RURAL WORKS CIRCLE: SUNDARGARH

Near Bana Durga Temple, Sankara, Sundargarh, Dist: Sundargarh
PIN-770020, Email : serw_sundargarh@yahoo.co.in

Office Order No. 2804 — **1st Corrigendum** — Date. 19.12.2024

O-964: The Last date of Availability of tender / date of seeking clarification/ date of opening /Time of completion of tender for all the works invited by this Office vide Bid Identification No. Online- RWCCESNG - 13 of 2024-25, Letter No- 2634 Dtd- 22.11.2024 are hereby modified as follows:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Last Date & Time of Availability of tender	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Technical Bid Opening	remarks
1	2	5	6		7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCESNG-13 of 2024-25	09.01.2025 5:00 PM	08.01.2025 5:00 PM	10.01.2025 5:00 PM	

OIPR- 25133/11/0026/2425 — Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer (I/C), Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh

IN THE COURT OF XXIV ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH 6)
Execution No. 684/2024

BETWEEN: VISHWANATHAM SHETTY C.S S/o. Late Subbaiah Shetty Aged about 84 years, Residing No. 105, 6th Cross, (Left) Magadi Road, Bengaluru- 560 023. **...Decree Holder**

Vs.

P.M. AVATHY REDDY AND OTHERS **...Judgment Debtors**

NOTICE TO JUDGMENT DEBTOR No. 2 AND 3, MR.R.NAGESH AND **MRS. MAHADEVAMMA**

To,

MR. R. NAGESH, MAJOR BY AGE, S/o.LATE M. RAMAIAH, RESIDING AT NO. 158, 5TH CROSS, WILSON GARDEN, BENGALURU- 560 004.

MRS. MAHADEVAMMA, AGED ABOUT 63 YEARS, W/o. SRINIVASA REDDY RESIDING AT DOOR NO. 29(79/3-23) OLD NO.23, 4th MAIN, BHARATHI LAYOUT, SUDDAGUNTE PALYA BENGALURU-560 093.

The Decree Holder has filed a Execution No. 684/2024 to executed the Judgment and decree passed in O.S. No. 3421/2004. You are hereby directed to appear **on 23.01.2025 at 11.00 AM** in the said Ex No. 684/2024. If you are fail to appear before the court you will be treated as absent and proceed with the case.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF THE SITE BEARING NO. 23, IN SURVEY NO. 79, OLD NO. 35, NEW WARD NO.63, SUDDAGUNTEPALYA, BHARATHI LAYOUT, BANGALORE, MEASURING EAST TO WEST 40 FEET AND NORTH TO SOUTH 30 FEET, BOUNDED ON:

EAST BY: ROAD, **WEST BY:** SITE NO.24, **NORTH BY:** SITE NO.22, **SOUTH BY:** ROAD.

Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 13.12.2024.

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.
Advocate for Decree Holder :
MR. BALARAM M.L., Advocate
M/s. BALARAM LAW FIRM
Advocate & Solicitors
GF, No. 30 & 31, HHS Complex, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-560002.
Mob. No. 9880171511

IN THE COURT OF XCI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AND SPL. JUDGE FOR KPIDFE CASES [CCH-92] AT BENGALURU
MISC. No. 630 of 2024

BETWEEN

DreamzGK Investors Welfare Association, 207, Prakruthi Enclave, Lakshmi L/out Rd, Via–Chikka Begur Gate, Bengaluru ...**PETITIONER**

AND

Competent Authority And Seven Others ...**RESPONDENTS**

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT NOS. 2 AND 6

2. Branch Manager - ICICI Bank, RT Nagar Branch, No.5, P&T Colony, RT Nagar, Bengaluru
6. Branch Manager - Axis Bank, Laxmi the Mall, Building No.5, Laxmi Industrial Estate, New Link Rd, Andheri West, Mumbai

Whereas, the petitioner has filed the above petition under section 11 of the KPIDFE Act 2004 against the respondents.

The Respondent Nos. 2 & 6 are hereby issued notice to appear in the Court of XCI Addl. City Civil and Sessions Judge [CCH-92] at Bengaluru, in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to above petition on **18th January 2025 at 11 AM in the forenoon.**

Take Notice that in default of your appearance on the date, above mentioned petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this day **20th December 2024.**

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court Bengaluru
Advocate for Petitioner
(Ms. Ragini Bundela)

IN THE COURT OF XCI ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AND SPL. JUDGE FOR KPIDFE CASES [CCH-92] AT BENGALURU
MISC. No. 629 of 2024

BETWEEN

DreamzGK Investors Welfare Association, 207, Prakruthi Enclave, Lakshmi L/out Rd, Via - Chikka Begur Gate, Bengaluru ...**PETITIONER**

AND

M.S.M. Constructions & Developers & 02 Others ...**RESPONDENTS**

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT NO. 2

2. Smt. Vidya PK Jain, W/o Pawan Kumar Jain, R/a No. 94/24, GTR Villa, 3rd Cross, Hennur Main Road, Lingarajapuram, Bengaluru

Whereas, the petitioner has filed the above petition under section 11 & 13 of the KPIDFE Act 2004 against the respondents.

The Respondent No. 2 is hereby issued notice to appear in the Court of XCI Addl. City Civil and Sessions Judge [CCH-92] at Bengaluru, in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to above petition **on 13th January 2025 at 11 AM in the forenoon.**

Take Notice that in default of your appearance on the date, above mentioned petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this day **13th December 2024.**

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court Bengaluru
Advocate for Petitioner
(Ms. Ragini Bundela)

Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice
WORKS DEPARTMENT
Bid Identification No. CCEKC - 31 / 2024-25
e-mail: ccekeonjharpwdcircle@gmail.com/sekcpwd_keonjhar@yahoo.com
B-794 **Letter No. 6022 dt. 18.12.2024**

1	Name of the work:	:-	Improvement of NH-215 from Jamunalia to Dhurpada (Bypass portion) road from 0/000 km to 11/449 km (except from 9/000 km to 10/500 km) in the District of Keonjhar under State Plan for the year 2024-25
2	Estimated cost	:-	Rs. 671.33 Lakhs
3	Class of Contractor	:-	"A" Class & "Special" Class
4	Period of completion	:-	11 (Eleven) Calendar Months
5	Date and Time of availability of Bid document in the portal	:-	From 11.30 Hours of 30.12.2024 to 16.00 Hours of 13.01.2025
6	Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal	:-	16.00 Hours of 13.01.2025
7	Date of opening of Bid from Portal	:-	11.30 Hours on 15.01.2024
8	Name and address of the officer inviting Bid	:-	Chief Construction Engineer, Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar-758001

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **"http://tendersodisha.gov.in"**

Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer,
Keonjhar (R&B) Circle, Keonjhar

OIPR- 34033/11/0066/2425

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Telephones: 0135-2763808, Fax- 0135- 2763508
CIN No. U40101UR2001SGC025866. Website: www.ujvnl.com

पत्रांक सं. 1116 दिनांक 21.12.2024

E-TENDER DATE EXTENSION NOTICE

Due to unavoidable circumstances the date of submission and opening of tender No. 13/SPH/2024-25 for, "Augmentation of Transformer Capacity of 132 KV Switchyard from 2x40 MVA to 1x80 MVA+ 1x40 MVA at 132/33 kV Voltage level at Sharda Power House, Lohiahead, Khatima Distt. Udham Singh Nagar (Uttarakhand)" is hereby extended:

Last date of submitting of tender document online : 28.01.2025 up to 16:00 hrs
Due date for opening of tender :03.02.2025 at 11:00 hrs

All other terms & conditions of the tender shall remain unchanged. For fuller & further details, kindly visit e-procurement portal http://uktenders.gov.in"

Executive Engineer(M&G)

"Avoid wasteful use of Electricity"

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

LIC HFL — LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD
1st Floor, Jeevan Managal Building, Hayes Road, Bangalore -560025. Ph.: 080-43003651

DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SEC 13 (2) OF "THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIALASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

The following persons whose names are mentioned in Col No.2, The details of properties mortgaged are shown in Col No.5. The borrower has defaulted in repaying the amounts due by them as shown in Col. No.4, in spite of repeated remainders, consequently these dues have been classified as NPA's as per RBI's guidelines. Notices were sent by Regd. Post to below mention date and that is returned / undelivered. Therefore, the respective borrowers are hereby called upon to repay the outstanding amounts due mentioned against their names in Col No.2 within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which LIC Housing Finance Ltd., would be constrained to initiate proceedings under sec.13 (4) of SARFAESI Act against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereunder against the respective loan A/cs to realize the amounts due to them.

The borrower attention is also invited as per Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, the right of redemption of the secured assets will be available to them only till date of publication of Sale Notice.

Sl. No.	Name of the Borrower & Loan No	Demand Notice Date	Notice Amount (in Rupees)	Description of the Property
1.	Mr. Eshwar Chandra Mithun Loan A/c No. 410600004448	07.11.2024	Rs. 2,34,064.77/-	SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of Property of the immovable property being vacant residential site bearing No. 08, Form 9 & 11A E-Khatha No. 390/1/1/08, PID N O. 151900802100420063, called "Maybelle" plotted layout formed in converted Survey Nos 1/1 and ½ measuring 5-00 Acres +1a 20 Guntas, in total 6 acres 20Guntas, converted for non-agricultural residential purpose vide conversion Order No. ALNS, SR(K)583/2006-07, dated:28.3.2007, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Kolar District and Layout Plan sanction Letter of Asst Director, Town Planning, Kolar Vide their letter No. MA/Va/Ni.06-07/187,dated 03.03.2007, situated at Yattakodi Village,Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District, and Measuring East toWest:40.5 Ft; North to South;28.5 Ft; In total measuring 1154.25 Sq Ft together with all rights, appurtances in whatsoever manner whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the East by Road; West by Private Property; North by Road; South by Site No. 09.
2.	Ms. Padma Prabha And Mr. Siva Kumar Padma Loan A/c No. 411500002790	27.09.2024	Rs. 39,41,379.00	Schedule A Property ; All that piece and parcel of the converted property bearing Sy no 44/3, New Sy no 44/3a, immovable property presently coming within the jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, bearing BBMP Khatha no 691/44/3A, measuring 1 acre 36 Guntas, situated at Tubarahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore and bounded on the: East by: Mr. Munichinnappa's land, West by: Road and Biddappa's land North by: Ramaiah's land South by: Nagaraj's land. Schedule B Property: (Description of the undivided share, right, title and interest hereby conveyed by the Vendors) 490 sq. ft Undivided share in the Schedule A Property. Schedule C Property : (Description of the apartment hereby sold) : A Two Bedroom Apartment /Flat no 108, Block A, In The first Floor in the Apartment Building Know as "CHARITH GREEN WOODS" constructed on the schedule A Property with super built up area of 1260 Sq. ft with exclusive use of the allotted area with right to use of one car parking space together with all common area attributable thereto. Flooring is vitrified tiles.

Place: Bangalore
Date:23.12.2024

Sd/- Authorized Officer
LIC Housing Finance Limited

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ

ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ.ಧಾ/ಸ.ಇಂ.-2/2024-2025/ 2635 ದಿನಾಂಕ : 21-12-2024

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ – 21/2024-25
(ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ಇವರಿಂದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **No.FD 876 Exp-12/2017, Bangalore, dated: 15-09-2017** ರನ್ವಯ **2023-24** ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ವಿಶೇಷ ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಲೆ.ಶೀ:5054 ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ (ಕಲಘಟಗಿ ಮತಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ. ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ಸ್ **KW-2 & KW-3** ರಲ್ಲಿಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

Indent No. Others : 11621, 11619, 11622, 11618, 11624, 11617, 11615.

ಕ್ಯಾಲೆಂಡರ್ ಆಫ್ ಇವೆಂಟ್ಸ್:

1) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **24-12-2024** ರಿಂದ ಡೌನಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ದಿನಾಂಕ: **02-01-2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ **4.00** ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

2) ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **03-01-2025** ರ ಸಂಜೆ **4.30** ಘಂಟೆಗೆ. ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ.

3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: **06-01-2025** ರ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ **11.00** ಘಂಟೆಗೆ. ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ.

ಈ ಮೇಲ್ಕಂಡ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ರಜೆ ಘೋಷಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕೆಲಸದ ದಿನಾಂಕವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುವುದು.

ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಿಯಮ/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪರತ್ತುಗಳು/ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೋಸೆಸ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ/ EMD ಮೊತ್ತ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿದವರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ

Responding to criticism over his participation in the recent funeral of the mastermind of the 1998 Coimbatore serial bombings, NTK leader Seeman on Sunday said, "Muslims have never voted for me. Instead, they now vote for the DMK like it's their sixth religious duty."

Kerala officials transport waste back to their state from TN villages

THINAKARAN RAJAMANI
@Tirunelveli

In a first, the Kerala government transported 18 trucks of biomedical waste originating from the state — mostly from the Thiruvananthapuram Regional Cancer Centre (RCC) and Credence Private Hospital — that was illegally dumped in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu, back into their borders on Sunday. The action follows directives from the southern bench of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which took suo motu cognisance of the matter based on TNIE's report published on December 17. This marks the first time that waste from Kerala illegally dumped in Tamil Nadu got sent back.

Since the waste removal work could not be completed before nightfall, it will continue on Monday.

As many as 50 officials from the Kerala State Pollution Control Board, Thiruvananthapuram district administration and corporation arrived in Tirunelveli on Sunday morning to remove biomedical, plastic, food and other waste from Kerala that had been illegally dumped in six villages in the district: Kodaganallur, Palavoor, Kondanagaram, Sivaniyapuram, Elanthaikulam and Thidiyur.

The officials, including Thiruvananthapuram Assistant Collector Sakshi Mohan and the district corporation's Public Health Officer Dr Gopukumar, brought along 16 trucks to carry the waste back. Upon arrival, they held talks with Tamil Nadu officials — Cheranmahadevi Sub-Collector Arpit Jain, Tirunelveli Assistant Collector (Training) Ambica Jain and others — at the Government Girls' High School in Nadukallur.

TNIE IMPACT

Subsequently, around 9.50 am, officials from both states formed six teams, including the local tahsildars, block development officers and police personnel, and began the process of removing the waste using earthmovers. Upon request, two extra trucks were arranged for the purpose by the Tamil Nadu government.

Addressing reporters, Tirunelveli Collector Dr K P Karthikeyan said that the officials from Kerala were cooperating with local officials and would remove all the waste dumped in different villages. "The TN government has taken the necessary steps to ensure this waste is removed, considering the environmental conservation of the state. Stringent action will be taken against anti-social elements who illegally dumped the waste here," he said.

"Tamil Nadu police will accompany these trucks till the Kerala border, and Kollam police take over from their limit in Kerala. Six to seven loads of waste, left over at the dumping sites, will be removed on Monday. A team of Kerala officials have camped in Tirunelveli for the same," he added. The collector also said the soil at the dumping sites will be disinfected and samples will be collected from the water body where the waste was found.

Culprits on the run, six FIRs registered

Tirunelveli police registered a total of six FIRs — three in Suthamalli police station, one each in Seethaparpanallur, Mukkudal and Munneerpallam police stations — and arrested five persons for illegally dumping waste from Kerala in the respective villages. The accused were identified as, Manoharan and Mayandi from Suthamalli, Chelladurai from Salem district, Sathananthan and Jithan George from Kerala. Cops, who seized the truck used to transport waste, have launched a search for several other culprits. On January 16, TNIE visited two of the affected villages and escalated the issue to the district adminstration and police, leading to two cases being filed at the Suthamalli police station after a 37-day delay. Following TNIE's detailed report published on January 17, the NGT took suo motu action, directing the Kerala government to either transport the waste back or employ a waste management firm to carry out the task.

POLICE COUNTER ALLU ARJUN'S CLAIMS WITH VIDEO FOOTAGE

Crowd was manageable before actor's arrival, claims cops

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

Group of protesters, claiming to be members of Osmania University Joint Action Committee, vandalise flower pots at the residence of actor Allu Arjun. Six were taken into police custody | PTI

HYDERABAD Commissioner of Police (CP) CV Anand on Sunday refuted actor Allu Arjun's claims regarding the stampede at Sandhya Theatre, where a 32-year-old woman lost her life, and an eight-year-old boy was severely injured. A day after the chief minister detailed the sequence of events in the Legislative Assembly regarding the December 4 incident, Allu Arjun held a press conference denying the allegations. In response, Hyderabad police released a video timeline of the incident.

According to Anand, the police and local teams collected around 1,000 video clippings, including media footage. After analysing the material, a 10-minute video was compiled to provide a clear account of what transpired. "After watching the video, decide for yourself what happened that day," the CP remarked.

On December 4 at 9.15 pm, Allu Arjun's daughter and father-in-law entered the theatre, followed shortly by the actor's son. Around 9.25 pm, Revathi and her family arrived at the theatre, where she and her son were separated from the man and their daughter.

According to the police, the crowd was manageable before Allu Arjun's arrival. However, between 9.28 pm and 9.34 pm, the actor arrived at the RTC X Roads Metro Station, standing through the sunroof of his car and waving to fans.

The video showed Allu Arjun waving to people from the sunroof of his car as he passed Musheerabad Metro station, where thousands of people had gathered on the roads. He entered the theatre's main gate at 9.35 pm with a private security team of 40–50 personnel. The overwhelming crowd caused the theatre's grill gate to collapse, triggering a stampede.

Then, the actor exited his car as his private security team cleared a path through the crowd, allowing him to enter the theatre. By 9.40 pm, he had reached the upper balcony.

Meanwhile, in the lower balcony, Revathi and her son Sri Teja lost consciousness. As Allu Arjun was seated on the upper balcony, people on the lower balcony attempted to climb to the higher floor. Around 9.50 pm, police and bystanders carried Revathi and her unconscious son outside.

Actor insisted on staying till end of movie: Police

Chikkadpally ACP L Ramesh Kumar said, "First, we informed Arjun's manager, Santhosh, and another person that a lady had died. At first, he did not allow us to meet Allu Arjun." They then asked us to convey the information to them, assuring us that they would inform Allu Arjun. However, they failed to do so. After receiving orders from my DCP, I pushed through the crowd and told Allu Arjun. He responded that he would leave after watching the movie."

Balancing tradition and modernity is crux of TTD's ambitious plans for Tirumala

Tirumala: With the clarion call given by Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, who emphasised the need to balance traditional aesthetics with modern functionality in Tirumala's development, Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD) aims to transform the hill shrine into a role model centre of pilgrimage with its Vision 2047 Mission, said TTD Executive Officer (EO) J Syamala Rao. Speaking to newsmen at Annamayya Bhavan in Tirumala on Sunday, the EO elaborated on the various development activities brought in the last six months. He explained that the TTD has invited proposals for 'Tirumala Vision 2047', a strategic initiative that focuses on planned development, environmental management, and heritage conservation in Tirumala, in alignment with 'Swarna Andhra Vision 2047'. The plan includes 18 projects such as footpaths, smart parking, new link roads, subways, and the redevelopment of areas like Rambagicha bus stand, Balaji bus stand, and development of a base camp in 42 acres at Alipiri. Adding further, EO Syamala Rao said that in 2019, Tirumala Zonal Planning was done as part of the TUDA Master Plan. However, this proposal was based on 2017 statistics, which do not suit the present requirements. So, aiming at Vision 2047, the zonal development plan is being revised to meet current and future needs. He also mentioned that TTD has invited reputed agencies to contribute to this transformative plan.

4 YEARS PENDING

₹224cr gratuity, leave encashment disbursed to rtd RTC employees

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FOUR transport corporation of Karnataka--Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC), Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC), North West Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) and Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) disbursed Rs 224.05 crore towards gratuity and earned leave encashment to 11,694 retired employees. The dues pending since January 1, 2020 were disbursed by Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy here on Saturday at the KSRTC head office. Reddy symbolically handed over cheques for gratuity and leave encashment to three retired employees . The total amount includes payments for 4,711 retired employees of KSRTC, totalling Rs 86.55 crore. BMTC disbursed Rs 50.25 crore to 1,833 retirees, while NWKRTC and KKRTC released Rs 51.50 crore and Rs 35.75 crore to 3,116 and 2,034 retired employees respectively.

Reddy stated that during a previous meeting with employee organisations, several demands were discussed and as part of these resolutions a provisional list of inter-corporation transfers for 1,308 driving and technical staff across four corporations has already been released.

A JOLLY WINTER RIDE

With Christmas approaching, a person dressed as Santa Claus cycles in Fort Kochi on Sunday | A SANESH

E-Prix case: BRS tense as ACB, ED likely to expedite investigation

IREDDY SRINIVAS REDDY
@ Hyderabad

TENSION seems to be building up in the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) circles over the next move of the Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) and Enforcement Directorate in the investigation into the Formula E Race case.

Both the agencies have registered cases against BRS working president and former IT minister **KT Rama Rao**, former IAS officer Arvind Kumar and former Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) chief engineer BLN Reddy.

Sources say that with the winter session of Assembly concluding on Saturday and the ACB officials having completed analysis of the judgment of the Telangana High Court, which restrained authorities from arresting Rama Rao for 10 days, now the focus of the anti-graft agency has shifted to the next course of action as the the court did not object to the investigation in the case.

The ED is also likely to seek bank details from the HMDA regarding the transfer of funds to FEO (Formula E Operation) and the various transactions that took place during the period of agreement with the E-Prix organisers. The agency is expected to proceed in the case based on the alleged violation of Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and Income Tax by the HMDA. Sources said that the ED may take three-four days to assess the details and summon the accused persons.

The sources said that the ACB is preparing to issue notices to Rama Rao, Arvind Kumar and BLN Reddy any time over the alleged irregularities in the Formula E car racing event.

Both the investigating agencies are likely to speed up their probe into the matter from Monday, causing consternation among the BRS leaders who are said to be discussing the measures to be taken to instill confidence among the party cadre if the worst happens.

The leadership is worried about the possible fallout of the investigation against the party working president on the leaders and demoralising impact it may have on the cadre.

PEGASUS CASE

Cong demands inquiry into spy racket

ENS @Bengaluru

RESPONDING to the US court verdict in the Pegasus spyware case involving an illegal surveillance racket, Congress leaders have expressed concern over the privacy of the citizens who were targeted.

Congress leader and Karnataka general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala said, "The verdict in the Pegasus case has blown the lid off a nefarious operation where 300 WhatsApp numbers of Indians were specifically targeted in an illegal surveillance racket. The time has come for the Union government to face an inquisition. Who are the 300 Indians whose privacy was invaded? Which two Union ministers were caught in this web of espionage? Which three Opposition leaders had their communications compromised? Which journalists, business tycoons and high-profile individuals were spied on? What sensitive information did the BJP government and its agencies retrieve from these victims? How was this data used, misused and manipulated for political gain?" The judgment has affirmed that 1,400 WhatsApp numbers were targeted, with 300 from India. "Will the Supreme Court call for a further inquiry? Shouldn't Meta (formerly Facebook) be forced to release the names of the 300 Indians targeted, given its responsibility to protect its user base in India?" he asked.

Former AICC general secretary and MLC Hariprasad said, "While investigation into Pegasus has been done in many countries, it is yet to take off in India. It is a failure to protect citizens' privacy."

Former MLC and Congress media in-charge Ramesh Babu said, "Phone hacking is a criminal offence in India. However, the BJP government is accused of engaging in misuse of power through Pegasus spyware, targeting phones of key national leaders and officials. This violation of privacy has sparked outrage across the political spectrum. Many opposition leaders have demanded immediate action, calling on the Modi government to stop its evasive tactics and face investigation into Pegasus head-on."

Shortcuts are never the solution, says edu expert

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

PROFESSOR Niranjanaradhya criticised the government's reliance on guest teachers, saying it shows they are aware of the shortage but avoid hiring. "This is a deliberate move. The government is happy paying guest teachers just Rs 10,000 while running schools. If they can hire 45,000 guest teachers, why not permanent teachers?" he questioned.

He argued that if the government cannot allocate Rs 10,000 crore like Kerala did, they should at least spread the amount over three years. "But shortcuts are never the solution," he said, emphasising that a long-term approach is needed to solve the crisis.

Data also highlights that government schools have faced a decline in enrolment, with just 42.92 lakh students across 46,757 schools. Though English-medium sections were introduced to draw in more students, enrolment numbers have not improved significantly. Experts lament that the government's actions, across party lines, are only damaging the reputation of government schools.

On recruitment, Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa recently stated that a recruitment notification was released in 2022 to fill 15,000 graduate teacher positions, with 13,352 candidates deemed eligible.

Row over non-veg food served at Kannada Sammelana

K SHIVA KUMAR @Mandya

THE 87th Kannada Sahitya Sammelana that started off with confusion over the food, ended up with a controversy with non-vegetarian food being served at the venue.

Tension prevailed for some time as members of progressive organisations served non-vegetarian food, including chicken curry, egg, kabab and traditional ragi ball to the public at the counters. The police tried to stop them from serving the non-vegetarian food and even seized the food. But, a few others managed to take it back to counters and served it to more than 200 persons. The controversy had erupted in the beginning when the Kannada Sahitya Parishat included non-vegetarian food along with alcohol and smoking in the restricted items, which was opposed by activists. The activists claimed that the organisers have no right to question their food habits or choices.

Non-veg food being served at the venue

Laxman, an activist, said they have upheld the Bahujan food habits by serving non-vegetarian food in the Sammelan. He said it was denied on all other 86 Kannada meets where they had projected consuming non-vegetarian food as a crime. A few felt that it is the venue and forum to discuss various issues including the plight of farmers, cane producers and jaggery units. Navya, a budding writer, said they are not against serving non-vegetarian food at the Sammelan. She, however, added that it is humanly difficult to serve non-veg food to lakhs of people participating in the meet. Some people felt that a bad precedent was set by serving non-vegetarian food at the literary meet.

The district administration, District Minister N Chaluvarayaswamy, office-bearers of Kannada Sahithya Parishat were tight-lipped on the issue and declined to comment on the issue.

Event ends with a call to improve infra in schools

The curtains were drawn on the 87th Akhila Bharata Kannada Sahithya Sammelana with a call to improve infrastructure in government-run Kannada schools which include buildings, libraries and playgrounds, alongside filling vacant teaching positions.

EXPRESS READ

147 sheep dead after pvt bus hits them in Guntur

Guntur: A private travel bus en route from Hyderabad to Guntur collided with a flock of sheep near Dachepalli on Sunday, resulting in the death of 147 sheep and leaving 40 others, along with the shepherd, seriously injured. The accident occurred early in the morning when the Sri Murti Travels bus struck the flock, which was being tended to by shepherd Avula Mallesh from Mahabubabad, Telangana. The financial damage is estimated to exceed `30 lakh. According to local police, the collision caused the deaths of the sheep and severely injured the shepherd, who was transported to hospital for treatment.

Security reduced outside AP CM's residence

Vijaywada: Following the directives of CM N Chandrababu Naidu, the security detail assigned to him has been significantly reduced. Only 121 police have been deployed outside his residence in Undavalli, which is just one-fifth of the 980 officers who were assigned to guard the residence of YSRCP president YS Jagan Mohan Reddy in Tadepalli during his tenure as CM. It has been reported that Rs 90 crore was spent annually on Jagan's security. Despite having Z+ security coverage, Naidu instructed police officers not to deploy a large number of personnel during his field visits to avoid inconveniencing the public.

EDITORIAL

India and Bangladesh will need to work this out on their own. The good thing is despite tensions, the two sides have kept communication channels open. It's a strained relationship but not a hostile one

Michael Kugelman

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

GST'S POPCORN MOMENT LEAVES EVERYONE WITH BITTER AFTERTASTE

THE 55th GST Council meeting ended without any significant announcements. There was neither a decision on a rate cut on insurance premiums as widely expected, nor was there any discussion on rate rationalisation. Yet, in the sandy terrains of Jaisalmer on Saturday, the Council meeting made news for all the (dare we say) wrong reasons. It clarified that caramelised popcorns are confectionery products, though not salted (namkeen) ones, and therefore, should attract 18 percent GST (unpacked salted popcorns attract five percent and packaged salted popcorns 12 percent). The announcement led to a meme fest on social media, with users pointing out the complexity of the GST structure, far from the simple tax it was promised to be. People were also miffed at the 'frivolousness' of the exercise when more serious issues like GST on insurance premiums went unaddressed.

While it is true that with every passing year, the GST—once hailed as a good and simple tax—is becoming more complex, one cannot deny that tax rules, beyond a point, cannot be simple, howsoever hard one may try. Policymakers start with a simple structure, but litigation, court orders and interpretation ambiguities necessitate amendments and clarifications, adding layer after layer to the existing rules. The GST only amplifies this anomaly. The divergent tax rates of popcorn are only one of the many examples under GST. The issue of the tax rate of Malabar parotta is yet to be settled, with Advance Ruling Authority claiming it to be a ready-to-eat bakery product and, therefore, liable for 18 percent tax. The Kerala High Court rejected the authority's order and put it in the five per cent slab.

Regarding taxes, authorities must keep coming up with clarifications and changes to deal with anomalies arising from court orders and disputes. In a way, adding layers to tax rules in a necessary evil. Yet, it is quite concerning that the GST is becoming ever more complex with every passing GST Council meeting. Maybe the government would have to overhaul tax rules every 10-15 years—making necessary omissions and simplifications—the way the government now plans with direct tax rules.

GET TOUGHER LAWS TO STOP BOREWELL DEATHS

UNCAPPED borewells are death traps, especially for young, unsuspecting children playing in the open. Such tragedies are common across India, with over 40 kids falling into borewells between 2009 and 2019 and 70 per cent of rescue operations failing. Rising dependence on water, directly linked to increased population and construction activity and worsened by negligence, are the reasons for this tragic trend.

India is estimated to have 2.70 crore borewells, mostly over 100 feet deep and just about a foot in diameter. When the borewell water dries up, the motors and casing pipe are removed, but the borewell is not adequately covered or sealed. Accidents continue to occur despite the Supreme Court's February 2010 revised guidelines to make them safe.

On Monday, the Karnataka Assembly passed the Karnataka Groundwater (Regulation and Control of Development and Management) (Amendment) Bill, proposing stringent measures to prevent children from falling into uncapped, newly drilled borewells. The Bill proposes that drilling and implementing agencies face a one-year jail and a ₹25,000 fine if guilty of ineffectively closing the lid of newly drilled borewells. It mandates owners intimate local authorities at least a fortnight before drilling borewells and close the borewell lids soon after drilling steel caps tightened with nuts and bolts. It asks local authorities to ascertain the proper closure of the borewells within 24 hours with photographic evidence. Defunct borewells are to be closed with soil, slush and thorns and fenced with signboards to alert people about the presence of drilled borewells. A majority of the victims are children of construction workers and villagers who play while their parents are at work. Most cases occur in the rural and semi-urban areas.

While the Bill passed in the assembly has brought in strict mandates, there are intense demands for making it more stringent to deter the drilling contractors from being negligent once the work is completed by leaving the borewells uncapped or half-capped. A lack of sensitivity allows negligence, leading to the loss of innocent lives. The lucky few survivors can barely be called "lucky", having to live with an inexplicable trauma. Local authorities, down to the taluk levels, must strictly prevent borewell deaths, making spaces safe for all, especially children. There's no scope for regret over lives nipped in the bud due to negligence.

QUICK TAKE

AI TAKING OVER NEW-AGE WAR OPS

INDIAN mythology talks of a king's aide with special power to witness a distant war live and keep his master updated on the unfolding battles. It is not known if the generals could also see the entire battlefield live to better strategise their moves. Aeons later, drone technology has helped generals to do precisely that in modern wars. In the Russia-Ukraine conflict, technology has taken a bigger leap. In Ukraine, a digital firm has stored two million hours–equal to 228 years–of footage from 15,000 drones to help build AI models for autonomous battle engagements. India, too, is already incorporating AI in defence strategies and not far from tech-propelled military operations.

Bangladesh is heading toward an alarming economic situation. Its future now hinges on a delicate balance of domestic political developments and international interventions

BANGLADESH STIRRING TROUBLE TO HIDE CRISIS

SALAH UDDIN SHOAIB CHOUDHURY

Internationally acclaimed multi-award-winning journalist, writer, research-scholar, and Editor, *Blitz*

SOURAV ROY

BANGLADESH'S economy is in a rapid nosedive, with over a million people becoming unemployed since August 5. Numerous commercial and industrial establishments are shutting down due to an acute liquidity crisis. This hampers entrepreneurs from opening letters of credit to import essential raw materials and other items required to sustain their businesses.

Meanwhile, dozens of 'buying houses' that coordinated the procurement of readymade garments from local factories for large buyers—mostly in the United States, Britain, and EU nations—have closed their offices. The worsening situation is primarily driven by mob anarchy, rampant extortion, threats, intimidation, and a hostile environment that discourages foreign nationals, particularly Indians, from remaining in the country.

Analysts warn Bangladesh is heading toward an alarming economic collapse. A significant segment of its population could face acute famine, while most of the 6.5 million workers in the country's garments sector—a key economic backbone—risk losing their jobs. International buyers are already shifting their orders to alternative sources due to the growing influence of extremist groups like Al-Qaeda, Islamic State, Hizb Ut-Tahrir and Hefazat-e-Islam. Thousands of Quranic madrasas in Bangladesh, considered breeding grounds for jihadists, further exacerbate the issue. These institutions are heavily influenced by anti-Semitism, jihadism, and Hindu hatred.

Given the troubling scenario, geopolitical analysts suggest Bangladesh, once seen as a rising economic star in Asia, is on the verge of becoming another Libya, Iraq, or Pakistan. The rise of religious extremism and state-sponsored violence may make the country a target for terrorist attacks.

On December 7, 2024, in a program on Zee News, Irshad Ahmed Khan, a leader of Pakistan's ruling Muslim League Nawaz, publicly admitted that Pakistan is sending weapons concealed in commercial consignments via sea routes to Bangladesh to wage war against "Indian aggression". Allegations have also surfaced that Pakistan plans to smuggle heroin, cocaine and synthetic opioids concealed within sugar consignments to Western destinations through Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, and Indian ports.

On September 29, 2024, the Muhammad Yunus regime issued a Gazette notification instructing customs authorities to exclude shipments from Pakistan from mandatory inspections under the 'National Selectivity Criteria'. This creates a glaring loophole, allowing goods arriving from Pakistan to bypass customs checks. Weeks earlier, the regime lifted provisions for post-landing inspections of consignments from Pakistan and removed mandatory security clearance for Pakistani citizens applying for Bangladeshi visas.

A classified communiqué from Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs reveals Bangladeshi missions have been instructed to end the requirement for security clearance for Pakistani nationals, overturning a policy enacted in February 2019. It undermines Bangladesh's security and facilitates infiltration by Pakistani terrorists, smugglers and organised crime networks. The Yunus regime, criticised for its Islamist, jihadist, and caliphate-driven ideologies, has adopted an overtly anti-India, anti-Hindu, and pro-Pakistan stance.

The regime's policy changes have far-reaching consequences. Members of terrorist organisations such as Lashkar-e-Taiba, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, and others now have easier access to Bangladesh, potentially infiltrating India through its porous borders.

Additionally, the policy shift benefits Pakistani narco-lords like Dawood Ibrahim's D-Company and the Inter-Services Intelligence, enabling the smuggling of weapons, explosives, narcotics, and counterfeit Indian currency.

Muhammad Yunus, known for his close ties with figures like Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, and George Soros, appears to be exploiting anti-Hindu sentiment and an anti-India agenda to divert public attention from Bangladesh's impending economic collapse. Simultaneously, he is negotiating with energy companies to secure lucrative contracts.

On December 8, 2024, George Mark Malloch Brown, president of Open Society Foundations and a former head of the United Nations Development Programme, held a lengthy meeting with Yunus. Brown is an IMF and World Bank advisor and has connections with George Soros. According to Alexander Soros, Muhammad Yunus is an 'old friend' of his father.

The situation may continue to deteriorate until president-elect Donald Trump assumes office on January 20, 2025. Yunus, a known critic of Trump, is increasingly nervous about potential US sanctions targeting his regime. Trump's administration may impose punitive tariffs on Bangladeshi exports, visa restrictions, and sanctions on Yunus and his associates. Investigations into Yunus' business ventures in the US, including 'Grameen America', where Hillary Clinton is involved, could further expose his activities.

Meanwhile, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party is preparing for the return of its acting chairman, Tarique Rahman, from exile. Rahman, who has been in exile since 2008, faces a life-term imprisonment verdict in the '10-truck arms haul' case. The Supreme Court is expected to overturn the ruling, paving the way for Rahman's return.

Rahman's return poses a direct challenge to Yunus and his advisors. It could force Yunus to transfer power to the BNP through elections, undermining his regime's grip on the country. In a desperate bid to gain international support, Yunus organised an event in Dhaka, claiming 28 EU ambassadors would participate to express solidarity with his regime. However, only 18 attended, most of whom were junior-ranking officials. They raised critical questions about the persecution of religious minorities and human rights violations, signalling waning international support for Yunus.

The catastrophic economic crisis in Bangladesh, coupled with the regime's controversial policies, is pushing the country toward instability. Yunus' calculated exploitation of anti-Hindu sentiment and alignment with pro-Pakistan elements have exacerbated tensions in the region. As international scrutiny increases and domestic opposition gains momentum, Yunus faces mounting challenges that could end his regime's tenure. Bangladesh's future now hinges on a delicate balance of domestic political developments and international interventions.

(Views are personal)

WHEN FESTIVALS HOP OVER RELIGIOUS LINES

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

HAPPY Christmas in advance, dear readers. Besides feasting on fruit-rich Christmas cake, pears and cherries made of marzipan and hot cocoa, one of our childhood rituals was to re-read our favourite Christmas stories in the holidays. Be it Enid Blyton or Agatha Christie, we found that few popular writers could resist telling a Christmas story.

The bottom line is that you may be allergic to rude and intrusive evangelists, but what's not to love about Jesus? My grandmother had a small European art picture of Mother Mary holding baby Jesus in her puja room. My mother, a staunch Hindu, gave me Bible stories to read along with other storybooks, and one day she pointed out that 'the poor are at the heart of the gospel'.

I loved singing carols and hymns so much that I still remember them from childhood. My maami used to play the piano and threw a Christmas party every year so we could gather around and sing while she played. I even mugged up the Paternoster or Our Father prayer in Latin because I found it beautiful. India, that way, is like a great big box of chocolates for us that we are free to participate in and enjoy different traditions without fear.

Out North, Christmas has long become a Hindu festival. Santa hats, Christmas trees, star-shaped paper lamps, and Christmas cakes are hugely popular with Hindu families. It does not make them 'less Hindu'. Hindus enjoy any festival with an endearing basis and charming traditions, be it Christmas or Valentine's Day.

And in a culture that celebrates the birth of one holy child, Sri Krishna, the advent of another holy child fits right in. Hindus completely 'get it' that there was once a Jewish man called Yeshua who taught 'God is love' and was cruelly punished for it, that a cult grew in his name and became a major world religion. 'God is love' closely resonates with the Hindu perception of God as a loving, compassionate entity.

Where the Hindu path diverges from Christianity is nobody is expected to 'save' Hindus. They have to work out their own salvation and attain moksha, or release, from the cycle of birth and death by their conduct. This brings us to the fundamental difference between Hinduism and Christianity. The Christian belief is humans are all sinners, and that's why Jesus came as the promised Messiah to save them through his own death. But Hindus do not believe they are sinners. Each of them is here to work off their individual karma.

The driving principle of the Hindu faith is ananda or joy, which makes them a singing, dancing, celebratory people. Their spiritual goal is to disappear into the light of God, which Hindu philosophy describes as sat chit ananda, the supreme bliss of feeling as one with God and all creation. But the two faiths wholly agree on seva or humanitarian service as the activity most pleasing to God.

PTI

> Out North, Christmas has long become a Hindu festival. Santa hats, Christmas trees, star-shaped paper lamps and Christmas cake are hugely popular. It does not make them 'less Hindu'. Hindus just enjoy any festival with an endearing basis and charming traditions

We find this sentiment expressed identically in both faiths. It is declared in Jubin Nautiyal's 2024 hit song, 'Pata nahi kis roop mein aakar Narayan mil jayega' meaning 'We don't know in which form God will appear to us'. It is found in Leo Tolstoy's evergreen story from the 19th century about the old shoemaker who dreams Jesus will visit him on Christmas Day. He looks out eagerly from his basement window at the feet passing by. He gets up several times to offer food and cheer to poor, careworn people. But where is Jesus? He goes to bed disappointed but then has a wonderful dream that sets him right. He hears Jesus say he came to him in each of the needy people he helped.

The root of this heartwarming story is in the New Testament, in Matthew 25:35-40: 'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Another common factor between Sanatan Dharma, Sikhism and Christianity is the exaltation of music as an ideal way to express devotion to God. The Church in the West has brilliant music, with composer Johannes Bach famously declaring that the noblest music was that in praise of God, while Mozart's High Mass compositions leave you stunned with their intense, almost unbearable beauty.

My favourite Western classical music story is about Handel's opera, Creation. The composer, a deeply religious man, set the story of Creation to music as found in the first book of the Bible (Genesis), with shades of Milton's Paradise Lost. The work premiered in Vienna in April 1798. When the chorus sang, "And God said, 'Let there be Light,'" such a divine blast of music ensued that the audience gasped in shock and awe—and collectively burst into tears.

Storywise, it is considered a straightforward opera without much action, but the composer is said to have valued it very much as a personal benchmark. Indeed, so many ways to celebrate Jesus.

(Views are personal)

(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Disorderly opposition

Ref: *Taxpayer money wasted, public issues adjourned* (Dec 22). Both the ruling dispensation and the opposition are responsible for the shabby scene in parliament. The government should have respected the demands of the opposition as they are also elected by the people. The opposition should expose to the public the misdeeds of the ruling group in an orderly manner rather than wasting time and earning a bad name.

A G Rajmohan, Anantapur

Parliament disturbances

Parliament is a law-making body and every effort should be made to ensure it functions normally during working hours. Adjournments have become so common nowadays. It's not good news for the nation. There may be differences of opinion but they should not come in the way of its normal functioning.

V Rajesh Mohan Rao, Thalassery

Vote-bank politics

Ref: *The rise & rise of Ambedkar as an icon* (Dec 22). The last years of B R Ambedkar's life were mired with frequent tiffs with Jawaharlal Nehru. He became a vote-catcher only after his demise. What we witnessed outside parliament was not leaders' respect and adoration for the father of the Constitution but their attempts to sway the Dalit vote bank.

Parthasarathy Mandadi, Tirupati

Hypocritical leaders

Ideology is not a rigid iron bar. Many leaders, including from the Communist Party who called Gandhiji bourgeois and criticised Nehru's policies, started praising them recently. This phenomenon of '*aya Ram gaya Ram*' is a practice not unique to India, unfortunately.

M Haneef, Kottayam

Protecting soil

Ref: *Protect soil after a year of landslides* (Dec 22). Soil is not what it seems. It shelters quite a lot of microorganisms that act on dead organic matter and convert it into manure, raising the soil's fertility. If we allow the topsoil formed thus to be vulnerable to the fury of flood water and winds, there is no future for coming generations.

G Nataraja Perumal, Elathur

Holistic approach

Soil erosion and degradation are significant concerns in our country, particularly in regions prone to landslides. It is crucial to adopt a holistic approach to addressing this issue, one that involves government agencies, local communities, and individuals working together.

Raju Kolluru, Kakinada

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Jairam Ramesh @Jairam_Ramesh
During the debate on the Constitution, PM launched a scathing attack on Indira Gandhi for the 42nd Amendment passed by Parliament in 1976.

Ashok Gehlot @ashokgehlot51
News has been received about an accident involving a police vehicle in the convoy of former CM. I wish for the speedy recovery of all the policemen injured.

Piyush Goyal @PiyushGoyal
On the occasion of the birth centenary year of revered Atal, we will get inspiration to live his life, values and ideals through various programs.

India, Kuwait bolster defence ties

During PM Modi's visit, MoUs signed to boost trade, sports and cultural cooperation

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Kuwait resulted in significant achievements, with multiple memorandums of understanding (MoUs) signed between the two nations.

India, which reported trade worth $184.46 billion with Kuwait and other GCC countries, including the UAE, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, and Qatar—in 2022-23, further cemented its ties with Kuwait during the PM's visit.

According to official information shared by the PMO, the visit from December 21 to 22 saw the signing of an MoU on cooperation in the field of defence. "This MoU will institutionalise bilateral cooperation in the area of defence, and key areas of cooperation include training, exchange of personnel and experts, joint exercises, cooperation in the defence industry, supply of defence equipment, and collaboration in research and development, among others," a government statement said.

Another key development was the cultural exchange programme (CEP) signed for the years 2025-29. "The CEP will facilitate greater cultural exchanges in art, music, dance, literature, and theatre, cooperation in the preservation of cultural heritage, research and development in the area of culture, and organizing festivals," the statement said.

In the field of sports, an executive programme was introduced to bolster bilateral cooperation. "The executive programme will strengthen bilateral cooperation in the field of sports between India and Kuwait by promoting exchange of visits of sports leaders for experience sharing," the PMO said. Moreover, it will include participation in programmes and projects related to sports, exchange of expertise in sports medicine, sports management, sports media, and sports science, among others.

A notable highlight of the visit was Kuwait's membership in the International Solar Alliance. "The International Solar Alliance collectively covers the deployment of solar energy and addresses key common challenges to the scaling up of use of solar energy to help member countries develop low-carbon growth trajectories," the government said.

Kuwait remains one of India's top trading partners, with bilateral trade valued at $10.47 billion in the financial year 2023-24. India is a key partner for Kuwait, and the Indian community forms the largest expatriate group in the Gulf nation. Kuwait is also India's sixth-largest crude oil supplier, meeting 3% of its energy needs. Indian exports to Kuwait reached $2 billion for the first time, while investments from the Kuwait Investment Authority in India exceeded $10 billion.

Indians constitute 21 per cent (1 million) of the total population of Kuwait and 30 per cent of its workforce (approximately 9 lakh). Indian workers top the private sector as well as the domestic sector workforce list, according to Indian Embassy in Kuwait.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi with his Kuwaiti counterpart Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah during the signing of an MoU at a meeting in Kuwait | PTI

International Solar Alliance

A notable highlight of the visit was Kuwait's membership in the International Solar Alliance. "The alliance collectively covers the deployment of solar energy and addresses key common challenges to the scaling up of use of solar energy to help member countries develop low-carbon growth trajectories," the government said. Kuwait remains one of India's top trading partners, with bilateral trade valued at $10.47 billion in the financial year 2023-24.

'Erosion of EC integrity': Kharge on poll rule tweak

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

CONGRESS president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday launched an attack on the government for tweaking an election rule to prevent public inspection of certain electronic documents, alleging it is part of the Narendra Modi government's "systematic conspiracy" to destroy the institutional integrity of the Election Commission. Kharge also said the Modi government's "calibrated erosion" of the EC's integrity is a frontal attack on the Constitution and democracy.

The government has tweaked an election rule to prevent public inspection of certain electronic documents such as CCTV camera and webcasting footage as well as video recordings of candidates to prevent their misuse. Based on the recommendation of the EC, the Union law ministry on Friday amended Rule 93(2)(a) of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, to restrict the type of "papers" or documents open to public inspection.

Reacting to the development, Kharge said, "Modi government's audacious amendment in the Conduct of Election Rules is another assault in its systematic conspiracy to destroy the institutional integrity of the Election Commission of India." "Earlier, they had removed the Chief Justice of India from the selection panel which appoints Election Commissioners, and now they have resorted to stonewall electoral information, even after a High Court order," he said in a post on X.

Everytime the Congress party wrote to the ECI, regarding specific poll irregularities such as voter deletions and lack of transparency in EVMs, the EC has responded in a condescending tone and chosen not to even acknowledge certain serious complaints, Kharge said. "This again proves that the ECI, even though it is a quasi-judicial body, is not behaving independently," he said. "The Modi government's calibrated erosion of ECI's integrity is a frontal attack on the Constitution and Democracy and we will take every step to safeguard them," Kharge said.

Congress general secretary (organisation) KC Venugopal said the poll panel had chosen opacity and a pro-government attitude in its dealings thus far. According to Rule 93, all "papers" related to elections shall be open to public inspection. The amendment inserts "as specified in these rules" after "papers". Law ministry and EC officials separately explained that a court case was the "trigger" behind the amendment.

'EC always responded in a condescending tone'

Everytime the Congress party wrote to the Election Commission, regarding specific poll irregularities such as voter deletions and lack of transparency in EVMs, the EC has responded in a condescending tone and chosen not to even acknowledge certain serious complaints, Kharge said.

BJP clears air, says NDA to fight Bihar assembly elections under Nitish, Modi

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

BIHAR Deputy Chief Minister and BJP leader Samrat Choudhary said on Sunday said the NDA will contest the assembly polls in Bihar next year under the leadership of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"There should not be any confusion about it. The NDA will seek the people's mandate again under CM Nitish Kumar and PM Narendra Modi's leadership," Choudhary told reporters at the party headquarters, responding to speculations regarding the projection of Kumar as the alliance's leader in the 2025 state polls.

The JD(U) had reaffirmed its stance on Sunday regarding Nitish's lead role in the upcoming polls.

Choudhary's remarks came after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent interview to a news channel in which he was asked if the NDA could go to the polls in Bihar without declaring a chief ministerial candidate, like it recently did with great success in Maharashtra. Shah, a former BJP president who is still regarded as the party's principal strategist, had replied after a pause, "We will sit together and decide. We will let you know after we have made a decision." This ambiguous response had fuelled speculations that the BJP might reconsider projecting Kumar as its leader in the 2025 elections.

Dispelling doubts, Choudhary said, "The NDA is working under the leadership of Nitish Kumar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bihar, and we will continue to contest elections under the leadership of both leaders."

He added that the NDA had contested the 2020 elections with Kumar as its chief ministerial candidate and still viewed him as the alliance's leader in Bihar. "In future as well, we will contest elections under the leadership of Nitish Kumar and the PM," he affirmed.

Choudhary also took a jibe at AAP leader Arvind Kejriwal, accusing him of attempting to create divisions by linking Poorvanchali people with Rohingyas and Bangladeshis. He urged people from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh settled in Delhi to respond strongly to Kejriwal's comments in the upcoming Assembly elections.

Referring to Kejriwal's handling of the Covid pandemic, Choudhary criticised him for allegedly neglecting Bihari and UP residents in Delhi, forcing many to return to their home states due to a lack of medical facilities. "He didn't even provide basic treatment for them," he alleged. Choudhary also questioned Kejriwal's delayed implementation of the Ambedkar scholarship scheme for Dalit students."Why did he wait so long to introduce it?" the BJP leader asked

The NDA is working under the leadership of Nitish Kumar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bihar, and we will continue to contest elections under the leadership of both leaders

Samrat Choudhary, BJP leader

500 enemy properties encroached in Bengal: MHA

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

THE Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) data has revealed that out of the total 4,376 enemy properties in West Bengal, over 500 of them are encroached by illegal occupants and the authorities initiated eviction proceedings only in cases of 49 such assets so far.

MHA officials said that the government has recently conducted a survey in West Bengal and it was found that there are 4,376 enemy properties in the states of which 4,320 were left by Pakistani nationals and 56 were that of Chinese, who left during 1962 war.

"Based on the survey conducted so far, encroachment has been found in 536 enemy properties situated in West Bengal and so far, 49 eviction proceedings have been initiated," a senior MHA official said, adding that out of these two are situated at 78-A&B Shakespear Sarani and the rest are in South Tangra Road, Kolkata.

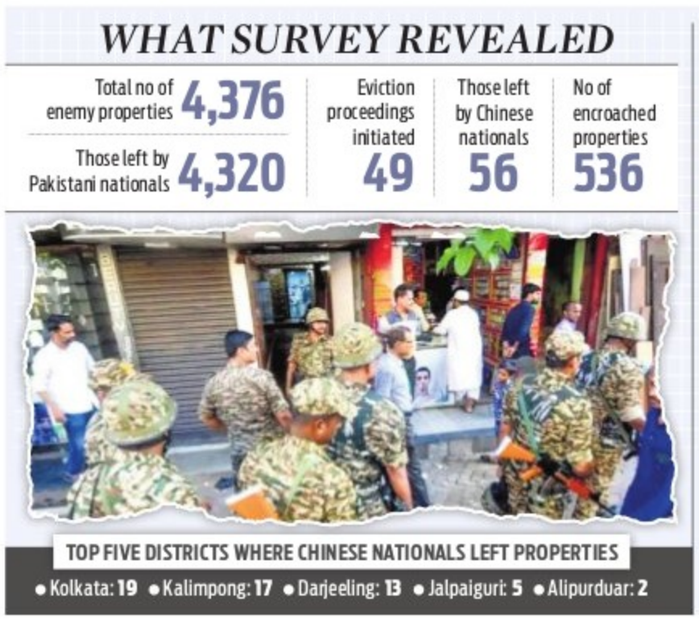
The official went on to add that no enemy property in the state has been sold in the past three years. "But, lease rents o he tune of ₹69.72 lakh have been collected during the last three years in respect of such properties in the state," he said.

The District Magistrates (DMs) act as an ex-officio Deputy Custodian of such properties and they are responsible for 'preservation and maintenance', and act as Estate Officers. "Therefore, under the law they are authorised to take action against illegal occupants under the Enemy Property Rules, 2015," the official said.

The maximum number of 1,728 enemy properties is situated in Murshidabad district, followed by 711 in Coochbehar, 625 in Purba Bardhaman, 427 in Birbhum and 100 in Alipurduar. All of these were left by Pakistani nationals.

Among those enemy properties, which were left by Chinese nationals include 19 in Kolkata, 17 in Kalimpong, 13 in Darjeeling, 5 in Jalpaiguri and 2 in Alipurduar, according to the MHA data.

Giving details of the procedure of disposing off the enemy properties, the official said, "In terms of guidelines framed in 2018, such assets are sold through e-auction after carrying out valuation by a committee under the chairmanship of the DM of a district, where the property is situated and based on this the central government decides the manner in which they are to be dealt with."



Retired military dogs to spread joy for special kids

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

IN a major role change, the 'canine soldiers' of the Indian Army will now serve children after completion of their service to the nation. The Army on Sunday said that it has gifted 12 retired military dogs to Asha Schools and benevolent people. "This thoughtful initiative demonstrates the Indian Army's commitment to not only safeguarding the nation but also honouring its brave soldiers – both men and animals – who have dedicated their lives to service," an Army statement said.

The Army runs Asha Schools for specially abled kids. The Army sees it as setting "an inspiring example of respect, compassion, and care for those who serve the nation." After serving the nation selflessly with unwavering loyalty, the retired military working dogs are now finding a new purpose in life – spreading love and joy, added the Army.

"The presence of these dogs brings immense therapeutic benefits, particularly to children with special needs, helping them improve their social, emotional, and cognitive skills. For families and individuals, adopting these canine heroes offers a unique opportunity to provide a loving home to a true patriot who has selflessly served the nation, while gaining a loyal and compassionate companion," the Army statement said.

"These extraordinary canines, with their unique training, calm temperament, and unwavering dedication, are being adopted by schools for special children and benevolent citizens across the country, continuing their service in a new and meaningful way," it said.

These K-9 heroes, the Army said, have served the nation in varied terrains and operational situations, displaying courage and resilience akin to true soldiers. Their contributions in detecting explosives and mines, avalanche rescues, search and rescue missions, tracking, and guarding have been vital to national security and humanitarian efforts. Indigenous breeds, such as the Rampur Hound, Mudhol Hound, Combai, Chippiparai, and Rajapalyam, are increasingly being utilised by the Indian Army for these critical roles, alongside other established working dog breeds.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director General, Remount Veterinary Services (DGRVS), highlighted the pivotal role of the Remount Veterinary Corps in breeding, rearing, training, and deploying dogs for a variety of operational tasks. "After their dedicated service, these canine warriors are brought to the canine geriatric centre at the Remount Veterinary Corps Centre and College, Meerut Cantt, where they receive excellent care and live comfortably in their sunset years," said the DGRVS.

The Army also maintains geriatric centres for its retired equine and canine soldiers, treating them with the same honour and care as retired jawans. These centres ensure they receive comfort, care, and dedicated veterinary support, reflecting the "Army's unwavering commitment to its silent warriors." "This initiative reminds us of the incredible bond between humans and animals, offering these brave dogs a well-deserved and fulfilling retirement," said the Army.

During the last two years, two dogs of the Army have lost their lives in the line of duty. Army dog Axel died during an anti-terror operation in the Baramulla district of Jammu and Kashmir in August 2022. Holed-up terrorists fired three bullets on the head of Axel. During an encounter with terrorists in the Akhnoor area of Jammu district on October 29, the Army's four-year-old sniffer dog Phantom lost his life. It sustained fatal bullet injuries while attempting to protect the troops from terrorists' attack.

No data on aid given to families of docs who died during Covid, shows RTI reply

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

THE Centre has refused to share data on compensation given this year to the number of families of doctors, who succumbed to Covid-19 during the first and second waves, according to an RTI reply.

The government, however, shared in November last year that 475 (29%) of doctors' families were compensated. This time, the Health Ministry clearly stated that the "data not available in material form."

Despite the government's refusal that they don't have the data on the total number of doctors who died during the pandemic, the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has put the number of doctor's casualties to over 1,596.

The IMA, which has 4 lakh members, has submitted a detailed list with photographs of doctors who succumbed to Covid-19 during the two waves with the health ministry.

The government's response came after RTI activist Dr K V Babu sought information on the total number of beneficiaries who have received compensation under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) insurance scheme since its launch on March 30, 2020. Under the scheme, the government announced insurance coverage of ₹50 lakh for healthcare providers, including community and private health workers, at risk of Covid-19 infection.

In his RTI, Dr Babu asked for the total number of beneficiaries under the scheme and the amount that was disbursed from March 30, 2020, to November 20, 2024.

In its reply, the ministry said, "A policy was issued to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for settling a limited number of claims that may arise during the policy period. In the said case, we had issued a policy for handling 2,294 claims, and we have settled 2,294 claims as per agreed terms and conditions."

He also asked how many families of doctors – who were earlier called Covid warriors and feted during the pandemic - were compensated and the disbursed amount. The RTI reply, dated December 17, said, "Data not available in material form. Hence, it is not provided under Section 7(9) of the RTI Act."

He also asked for state-wise data from Delhi and Kerala on the number of compensated doctors' families. However, the answer was the same. "Data not available in material form. Hence, it is not provided under Section 7(9) of the RTI Act."

The Kannur-based Dr Babu said that the data from the Union Health Ministry clearly shows a vast majority of the Covid-martyred Indian doctors are not beneficiaries of the insurance scheme.

"It is a big let-down by the government of India. It is also very distressing for doctors and their families that the Supreme Court has not listed the Special Leave Petition (SLP) in the last two years," he told this paper. He said that according to the data provided via RTI in November 2023, 2,244 beneficiaries, including 475 doctors, were compensated.

BUS ACCIDENT

A bus carrying students and teachers from a Bihar-based coaching institute overturned in Kushinagar district of UP on Sunday, injuring 11, officials said. The accident occurred near the Turkpatti police station area on NH-28.

2 KILLED IN TIGER ATTACKS IN MP'S DISTRICTS

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	27	18	Mumbai	28	28
Bhopal	25	14	Panaji	32	24
Jaipur	22	15	Patna	35	27
Amritsar	20	07	Lucknow	36	22
Chennai	28	25	Port Blair	28	24
Kolkata	26	17	Imphal	31	19
Srinagar	07	-02	Chandigarh	35	19

Power cuts add to JK winter woes

Frequent loadshedding forces people to resort to traditional kangris, bukharis, hamams

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

DESPITE the influx of new heating gadgets on the market, people in Kashmir still prefer traditional methods for keeping warm during the harsh winter. They rely on Kangris (earthen firepots), bukharis, and hamams to stay cozy, especially when nighttime temperatures drop well below freezing due to frequent and unplanned power cuts.

The 40-day harshest winter period known as Chilai Kalan has started in the Valley from December 21. The Chilai Kalan, during which the night temperature stays below freezing point and there are maximum chances of snowfall, would end on January 31. The snow that falls during this time period freezes. It is this snow that adds to the glaciers of the Valley and replenishes the perennial reservoirs that feed the rivers, streams and lakes in Kashmir during the months of summer.

On the first day of the Chilai Kalan, the night temperature in Srinagar dropped to minus 8.4 degrees, which was lowest in the last three decades.

As the cold intensifies in the Valley, where even water taps freezes, it is a must to keep oneself warm for survival and unfortunately people can't rely on electronic heating gadgets to give them the required warmth in the icy cold weather.

We have in our houses the latest electronic heating gadgets. But they are of no use. Because they run on electricity and here in Valley electricity is playing hide and seek even in the harsh winter

Feroz Ahmed, a Srinagar resident

"We have in our houses the latest electronic heating gadgets. But they are of no use. Because they run on electricity and here in Valley electricity is playing hide and seek even in the harsh winter," said a Srinagar resident Feroz Ahmed.

While the unmetered areas in Srinagar and other parts of the Valley are facing length and unscheduled power cuts of more than 12 hours in a day and on occasions they go beyond that, the situation is no different in metered areas which were promised 24x7 electricity. "I live in an unmetered area in Srinagar. After every three hours, there is a three hours power cut. Even when the electricity is supposed to be available as per schedule, it plays hide and seek. In such a scenario, we cannot bank on electronic heating gadgets but our traditional Kangris, hamams and Bukharis to keep ourselves warm," said Bashir Ahmed, a resident of Zewan area in Srinagar outskirts.

Harshest period for Kashmiris

The 40-day harshest winter period known as Chilai Kalan has started in the Valley from December 21. The Chilai Kalan, during which the night temperature stays below freezing point and there are maximum chances of snowfall, would end on January 31.
On the first day of the Chilai Kalan, the night temperature in Srinagar dropped to minus 8.4 degrees. As the cold intensifies in the Valley, it is a must to keep oneself warm for survival.

A resident of Hyderpora area of Srinagar, Javed Ahmed said Kangris, hamams and Bukharis are hot favourites for Kashmir in absence of electricity. "Our's is a metered area but we too face length and pesky power cuts. In absence of electricity, electronic gadgets cannot keep us warm in this bone chilling cold. Only our traditional kangris, hamams and bukharis help us to keep ourselves and our homes warm," he said.

Javed said even in the 21st century, the traditional Kangris, hamams and bukharis remain hot favourites among Kashmiris and "electronic heating gadgets remain mere show pieces at our homes during this harsh winter in absence of electricity".

Tripura remained backward under Left rule, says Shah

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday said that during the 2028 Assembly elections, he would present the "report cards" of both the BJP and CPI(M) rule in Tripura. He believes that by that time, the performance of the BJP will surpass the achievements of the previous Left regime.

While addressing the National Cooperative Conference at Rabindra Bhavan, he alleged that Tripura remained backward for 35 years during the Left Front rule as the government worked only for CPI(M) cadres. He also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for various development projects worth over ₹668 crore in Dhalai.

Shah interacted with people from the Bru (Reang) community at the Haduklau Para Bru Settlement Colony in Dhalai and also visited their homes.

He said the Centre had facilitated the settlement of 38,000 displaced Brus -- who fled to Tripura from Mizoram in 1997 in the wake of ethnic tension -- under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

He said for nearly 25 years,

During the tenure of the previous government, only 2.5% of people had access to drinking water, whereas today 85% of households have tap water.

Amit Shah, Home Minister

these people had been living in extremely difficult conditions with no access to basic facilities like water, toilets, electricity, education, employment, and healthcare. He said the PM addressed their sufferings.

Shah said the Bru agreement helped resettle the people, adding provisions were made for their employment and cooperatives for the women besides access to basic amenities. He said many schemes were taken up during the tenure of the previous government but they never materialized on the ground.

RAIPUR DIARY

EJAZ KAISER
Our correspondent in Chhattisgarh
ejaz@newindianexpress.com

Subodh Singh appointed PS to CM Vishnu Deo Sai

In a major administrative reshuffle, Subodh Kumar Singh, a 1997-batch IAS officer, has been appointed as the principal secretary to Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai after returning from central deputation. Singh had previously served as a secretary in the Chief Minister's secretariat during the BJP regime led by Raman Singh. He moved to Delhi on deputation in January 2020 when the Congress party came to power. Singh is the fourth IAS officer to join the CM's secretariat, following three other secretary-rank IAS officers: P. Dayanand, Basavaraju S., and Mukesh Bansal, as well as an IPS officer, Rahul Bhagat.

Major push for 'Winter Yatra of Char Dham'

The Uttarakhand govt is promoting the 'Winter Yatra of Char Dham,' according to the Dehradun chapter of the Public Relations Society of India (PRSI). This initiative aims to encourage winter pilgrimages to the winter abodes of the Char Dham. During a three-day national convention in Raipur, a formal invitation to participate in this initiative was extended to the state's Dy CM , Vijay Sharma. At the event, all participants wore a uniquely designed Brahma Kamal cap, which symbolizes Uttarakhand's rich cultural heritage and traditions.

RMC's big move for reuse of STP treated water

Raipur Municipal Corporation (RMC) is taking measures to promote reuse of treated water from its four Sewage Treatment Plants. This initiative has generated strong interest from various industrial groups regarding the productive use of this water. RMC has signed MoUs with several organizations, including the NHAI, to utilize over 13 mn litres per day of treated water through an established pipeline system. It plans to set up additional agreements, as it has a combined treatment capacity of 206 MLD. This initiative in wastewater management and the reuse of treated water is expected to conserve over 4 million liters of water daily and generate an annual revenue of ₹84 lakh.

IN CHHATTISGARH

Sunny Leone a beneficiary of welfare scheme!

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

IN an unusual turn of events, Sunny Leone, a model and actress, has been listed as a beneficiary of Chhattisgarh's 'Mahtari Vandan Yojana,' a scheme aimed at promoting women's empowerment.

The scheme, launched in March by PM Narendra Modi, provides eligible women a monthly ₹1,000. It came to light on Sunday that one Virendra Kumar Joshi managed to create a bank account under Leone's name and had been withdrawing the funds since the program's inception.

"This is highly embarrassing. Joshi, a resident of Talur village, used a false name to receive the payments. The bank account has been frozen, and ₹10,000 will be recovered. An FIR has been filed and an investigation is underway," Haris S, the Bastar district collector told this newspaper.

Disciplinary action has been initiated against the local Anganwadi worker and supervisor, as it was their responsibility to verify identities and ensure proper registration, the collector added.

431 arrested in Assam in phase 3 of crackdown against child marriages

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Guwahati

THE Assam police arrested 431 people for their alleged involvement child marriage cases. The arrests were made during a statewide crackdown on December 21-22. A total of 345 cases were registered.

The highest number of people (68) was arrested from lower Assam's Dhubri district. No arrests were made from Dima Hasao, Tamulpur, Biswanath, Jorhat districts, Hamren (West Karbi Anglong) and Guwahati.

"Assam continues its fight against child marriage. We will continue to take bold steps to end this social evil," said CM Himanta Biswa Sarma.

The drive against child marriage was launched in February 2023 when 3,425 people were arrested and 4,387 cases registered. In the second phase in October that year, 913 people were arrested and 682 cases registered.

A report, released by the India Child Protection on the World Day for International Justice in July, stated there had been a whopping 81% reduction in child marriage cases across 20 districts of Assam between 2021-22 and 2023-24.

Sarma said, "This report is a shining testament to our sustained efforts in empowering Nari Shakti. We will not rest till we eliminate this social evil."

Assam continues its fight against child marriage. We will continue to take bold steps to end this social evil

Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister

He said the cases dropped significantly in 2024 in the villages surveyed. He said child marriage had been completely eradicated from 30 per cent of the surveyed villages while a staggering 98 per cent of the villages surveyed backed the crackdown.

"Out of the 20 districts, Nagaon and Jorhat have achieved a 100 per cent reduction in child marriage, while seven other districts have achieved over 80 per cent reduction. In minority-concentrated districts, there has been a stark decrease in decrease in cases of child marriage," Sarma said.

55L women await financial aid under Soren's 'Maiyan Samman Yojana'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi

JHARKHAND women still await the financial assistance of increased ₹2,500 under the 'Maiyan Samman Yojana'. Despite the promise made by JMM to credit the increased amount in their bank accounts on December 11, nearly 55 lakh women all over the state are still waiting for the money.

"I have received ₹1,000 for four months, but the increased amount as promised by the government ahead of the elections, is yet to be credited in my bank account. Meanwhile, I have received a message on my mobile that the payment for December will be given next week," said 26-year old Sangita Devi of Hazaribagh.

Now, the government sources said that the money will be transferred on December 28 during a mega event in Ranchi in the presence of nearly 7 lakh women coming from across the state. The women will be ferried to Ranchi and back by buses for which all the deputy commissioners have been given directions.

Notably, the state finance minister has already admitted that arranging funds for the flagship women assistance scheme which would see an increased amount being sent to the beneficiaries from December will be a challenge. According to the minister, with the number of beneficiaries increasing every day and the amount enhanced to ₹2,500, they expect it to cost the exchequer by around ₹18,000 crore.

Revenue generation

The state government is planning to increase revenue generation by augmenting collection from mining, excise and revenue departments. According to government data, a total of 55.25 lakh women have registered for the scheme, out of which 65,000 are from Ranchi itself.

Meanwhile, the government is planning to increase revenue generation by augmenting collection, especially from mining, excise and revenue departments.Under the 'Mukhyamantri Mainiya Samman Yojana,' the flagship programme of Hemant Soren Government, women aged between 21 to 50 years are getting financial assistance of ₹1,000 every month in their bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). But, looking at its popularity before the Assembly polls, the financial assistance was increased to ₹2,500 from ₹1,000.

According to government data, a total of 55.25 lakh women have registered for the scheme, out of which 65,000 are from Ranchi itself.

Chief Minister Hemant Soren, riding high on his better half Kalpana Soren's popularity and welfare schemes like Mukhyamantri Maiyan Samman Yojana, surprised everyone by registering a landslide victory over BJP-led NDA in Jharkhand on Saturday. According to the poll experts, Maiyan Samman Yojana launched ahead of the polls by Hemant Soren government, was one of the major actors for Soren retaining power with an increased mandate. This is perhaps best ever performance by any party or leader since the formation of Jharkhand.

U'khand launches first wine tourism initiative

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

THE Uttarakhand government has officially launched its first wine production unit in Kotdwar to promote wine tourism under its new excise policy. This initiative has already resulted in the production of 1,000 cases of wine from the new facility.

An official from the Excise Department stated, "Under the wine tourism initiative, wine enthusiasts will have the opportunity to tour the wine production unit and its premises. Visitors will learn about the history of wine and the production process and get a chance to taste different varieties of wine."

To enhance the experience, guest houses are being developed around these units, allowing tourists to relax and enjoy the region's scenic beauty. Wine tourism has gained significant popularity in several countries, and Uttarakhand aims to tap into this growing trend.

According to departmental sources, the government is striving to ensure that the excise policy is implemented in a way that not only increases revenue but also creates employment opportunities. As part of this initiative, there are plans to promote wine tourism.

"Under this plan, small and medium units for wine production will be encouraged in various hilly regions, allowing local fruits to be used for wine production, which will increase employment and business opportunities for the local population," said an official source.

Speaking to this newspaper, Deputy Excise Commissioner Prabha Shankar Mishra elaborated on the plans for wine tourism in Uttarakhand. He stated, "The department aims to position Uttarakhand as a destination for wine tourism in the coming years. This initiative will boost investment, create employment opportunities, and enhance tourism."

Mishra highlighted the region's rich agricultural resources, saying, "The state is abundant in fruits such as malta, apples, buransh flowers, pears, and galgal, which can be utilized for wine production to attract tourists." He further added, "To achieve this goal, a private wine unit was established in Kotdwar two months ago with the approval of the excise department, and it has been producing continuously. Following this, we are also preparing to open a new plant in Bageshwar and Champawat."

BJP state spokesperson, Honey Pathak, who claims that wine tourism can contribute to employment in Uttarakhand, told this newspaper: "Wine tourism invites travellers to immerse themselves in the enchanting world of wine. This unique form of tourism allows visitors to taste, purchase, and enjoy fine wines. It offers a chance to delve into the rich history, culture, and stunning landscapes of renowned wine regions."

"The roots of wine tourism can be traced back to the 1970s in Mondavi, California. Since then, it has blossomed into a popular trend across the globe, with countries like Chile, Argentina, and South Africa embracing this flourishing industry," he added.

Govt efforts, community role behind expanded green cover in Chhattisgarh

EJAZ KAISER @ New Delhi

RESOLUTE efforts and aggressive result-driven approach on biodiversity protection and environmental-forest conservation evidently led to the remarkable increase in forest and tree cover in Chhattisgarh, as per the findings of the India State of Forest Report 2023.

The state has recorded a 94.75 sq km increase in forest cover, reflecting a 0.07% rise compared to ISFR 2021. Chhattisgarh's total forest cover now stands at an impressive 55,811.75 sq km, which is cited to be over 42.5% of the land in the state. ISFR 2023 indicated that Chhattisgarh has recorded the maximum increase in forest and tree cover nationwide, with a combined growth of 683.62 sq km securing the topmost position surpassing other states in the country. It has also achieved the highest reassuring change in tree cover, with an increase of 702.27 sq km compared to ISFR 2021.

On the conservation front, the state's Very Dense Forest

(VDF) cover has witnessed a substantial increase of 349 sq km since 2021. Similarly, the open forest cover has expanded from 16,370 sq km to 16,411 sq km during the same period.

"The report on increase in forest and tree cover is a reflection of the state's constant endeavour in community-driven afforestation programmes, sustainable forestry practices and robust forest protection measures. Besides preserving the state's vast forested landscape and rich biodiversity, the forest department addressed the challenges posed by climate change", V Sreenivasa Rao (PCCF & Head of Forest Force) told this newspaper.

In the state not just the large-scale tree plantations routinely encouraged everywhere but the forest department simultaneously focused on revival and rejuvenation of the network of water bodies with thousands of streams now evenly spread.

The Vishnu Deo Sai govt laid stress on enhancing the groundwater percolation, forest regeneration, water retention and storage capacity of streams. There remains an active involvement of local communities through Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs).

Government of Karnataka

MINOR IRRIGATION AND GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Office of the Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation & Ground Water Development Division, Jayanagar Shopping Complex, Jayanagar, Bangalore-560011

No. EE/MI & GWD/BNG/AE-1/08/2024-25 **Datd : 21.12.2024**

Short Term Tender Notification Through kppp Portal

On behalf of the Hon'ble Governor of State of Karnataka, as per K.T.P.P. act with latest amendments, Item wise tenders are invited for the works mentioned under H/A 4702-MOT from the eligible contractors of suitable category registered under KPWD. For further details, visit website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Name of the work: Reconstruction of Breached Dasenahalli Perculation Tank in Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District. (Call-2)

Amount Put to Tender (Rs in Lakhs) : Rs.369.33 EMD: **Rs.5.54**

Period of Completion: 11 Months including Monsoon Season.

(1) Tender will be published through kppp portal on Dated : **23.12.2024 at 16.00 Hours, (2)** Pre Bid Meeting Date & Time (Address Office of the Superindent Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Division, Bangalore) : **26.12.2024 at 16.30 Hours, (3)** Last Date queries : **30.12.2024 at 16.00 Hours, (4)** Last date for Receipt of Tenders on Dated : **30.12.2024 at 16.00 Hours (5)** Technical Bid will be opened on Dated : **31.12.2024 at 16.00 Hours, (6)** Financial Bid will be opened on Dated : **After approval of Technical bid**

Conditions: 1) Terms and conditions and other details may be obtained through kppp portal at the website address **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in 2)** Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in clause KW-4 of ITT in Standard Tender document. **3)** Bidder should quote the rates Excluding GST **4)** Rights are reserved for postponement or cancellation of any or all Tenders.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, M.I. & G.W.D. Division

DIPR/CP/3900/SSC/2024-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

That, my clients, **Mrs. NISHITA THAKUR,** aged about 37 years, W/o Sri Mr. Amit Kumar & Mr. AMIT KUMAR, aged about 43 years, S/o Mr. A K Thakur, both are residing at D-2001, Mahindra Windchimes, Arekere, Banergatta Road, Bengaluru 560076 Karnataka are the absolute title owners in possession over schedule property without any hindrances.

That, on 22-09-2018, my clients have purchased the schedule property from their vendors in respectively vide registered document No. MDP-1-06368-2018/19, CD No. MDPD247, in the office of the Sub-registrar Shivajinagara (Mahadevapura), Bengaluru. That, my clients have lost the original sale deed in respect of schedule property at their office, which is situated at Anthill IQ workspace, Hulivamu, Bannerghatta, Bengaluru. That, in the month of December 2024, my clients are having the knowledge about lost of their original sale deed & other relevant documents. That, my clients is intending to execute the sale deed of schedule property in favour of third parties. If incase any general public found the original sale deed over the schedule property be pleased to forward the original documents at below mentioned address. That, in case of any queries regarding the possession & title of schedule property from any general public, the interested person can communicate the below mentioned address with the relevant documents within 10 (ten) days from the day of this notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Item No.1 All that piece & parcel of the apartment bearing No.301, in 3rd Floor, measuring 1200 square feet super built of up area, consisting Two Bed Rooms, Hall, Dining Hall & Kitchen, Vitrified Flooring, wooden doors & UPVC windows, together with One covered parking stilt floor and having necessary electricity back-up of DG set allocated loand of 0.5Kva load equivalent alonga with proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, terrace & staircase contained in the multistoried building constructed on the survey No.89/1, measuring 0-05 Guntas & Survey No.89/6, measuring 0-05 Guntas, totally measuring 0-10 Guntas, both property are situated at Mahadevapura Village, K R Puram hobli, Bengaluru East Taluku. The said property known as "SRISHTI DHRUVA".

Item No.2 385 square feet is undivided right, title & interest in the immovable property mentioned in said two survey numbers.

Address for communication:
MAHESH S B, Advocate,
Office at # 63, 1st Floor, Opposite to Bus Stop, Vinayalanagara, Bengaluru-560 063
Ph No: 8147820385
Emailid:maheshgowdasb900@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that our client intends to purchase the property morefully described in the Item No 1 and 2 of the schedule hereunder from its present owner Smt S Kavitha, W/o Sri N Shivakumar. If any person/s or entity/authority having any right, title, interest and objections over the scheduled properties may lodge their claims/objections in writing supported by relevant documents to the undersigned within **10 days** from the date of publication. In case of non-receipt of objections or claims within the aforesaid period our client shall presume that there are no claims/objections for purchase.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM NO.1: All that piece and parcel of Survey No.25/10A measuring 34 guntas including 2 guntas of B Kharab land in Thattekere village, Soluru Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagara District and bounded on:

East by :	Land bearing Sy No. 25/26,
West by :	Land in Sy No. 25/11,
North by :	Road and Land bearing Sy No.63,
South by:	Land belonging to Chikaputtaiah bearing Sy No. 25/9.

ITEM NO.2: All that piece and parcel of Survey No.25/26 (old Sy No.25/10A) measuring 15 guntas along with 1 gunta of B Kharab land in Thattekere village, Soluru Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagara District.

East By :	Land in Sy No. 25/14,
West by :	Land in Sy No. 25/10A,
North by :	Road and land bearing Sy No. 63.
South by:	Land belonging to Chikaputtaiah bearing Sy No.25/9.

SHIVAPRAKASH .K .N, Advocate
SRS LAW ASSOCIATES
No.548, 7th Main, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-40,
Mobile : 9341824536.
Place: Bangalore Date: 21-12-2024

Government Of Karnataka
[Prison and Correctional Services]
Office of The Superintendent Central Prison Ballri
TelePhone No:08392-255025 Mail-Cpbly.prisons-kar@gov.in

No:cpb/Tender Section/6162/2024-25 Date:20/12/2024

Tender Advertisement

The Supply and Installation of CCTV Surveillance System Repair and Replacement for Bellary Central Jail and annual maintenance for The Period of 05 years Tender Call-2 has been published on the e-portal software under the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 1999, Rules 2000 on 20/12/2024.

01.Tender Publication Date **20/12/2024.** 02.Estimated amount for the Tender **Rs. 60 Lakhs.** 03.Starting date for uploading Tender form **20/12/2024.** 04.Last date for Quiries/ Clarifications regarding the Tender **30/12/2024 17:30 HRS.** 05.Last date for uploading Tender form **03/01/2025 17:00 HRS.** 06.Technical Bid Opening Date **04/01/2025 17:30 HRS.** 07.Financial Bid opening Date **06/01/2025 11:00 HRS**

For more information, please check the Website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact mobile no.: +91 94808-06515 and Office landline no.: 08392-255026 during Office hours.

Sd/-Superintendent, Central Prison Ballri

DIPR/Ballari/711/KSMCA/2024-25

YES BANK LIMITED

Registered & Corporate Office : Yes Bank House, Off Western Express Highway, Santacruz East, Mumbai-400055. **CIN:** L65190MH2003PLC143249
Branch : Kosmo One, Tower C, 2 nd Floor, Plot No. 14, 3 rd Main Road, Ambattur, Chennai – 600058

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE U/S 13 (2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/ mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the Credit Facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose facility account has been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses but such communications got returned/un-served and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

S.No.9 Loan No. MOR061600457713 and MOR061600675821, Borrower Name Ganesan and Selvi Ganesan, Both all are residing at Door No.7, 2nd Floor Site No.69, Anjan Enclave, Munnekolala, Marathahalli Post,Bangalore 560037 and Also at No. 1/51, Vannamparaipatti, Melur, Madurai 625109, Near Panner shop NPA Date 02-May-24, Demand Notice date 25-Oct-24, Amount outstanding Rs. 20,73,242 /-, Description of property Madurai District, Madurai North Registration District, Melur Sub registration District, Vannamparaipatti Village, R.S.No.107/1C Measuring 34 cents in which Southern Measuring 5 cents ie.,2180 sq.ft land in that tiled house the Ad measuing in East West on North 28 feet, on South 28 feet and North South on East 17 feet, on West 17 feet and measuring 476 sq.ft is bounded on the ,North :Land and house of Sethu,East:Land of Sethu,South: Road,West: Land and house of Logu,The above property in that house on bearing old Door No.1/36 in New Door No.51.

Date : 23-12-2024
Place : Bangalore

Sd/-
(Authorized Officer)
YES Bank Ltd.

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HDFC BANK LIMITED

Regd. Office: HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel West, Mumbai – 400013.
Tel:-080-41183000, CIN L65920MH1994PLC080618 Website: www.hdfcbank.com
Branch: Retail Portfolio Management, HDFC House, No. 51, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru – 560001.

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13 (2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of **HDFC Bank Limited** (erstwhile HDFC Limited having amalgamated with HDFC Bank Limited by virtue of a Scheme of Amalgamation approved by Hon'ble NCLT-Mumbai vide order dated 17th March 2023) **(HDFC)** under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued Demand Notices under Section 13 (2) of the said Act, calling upon the Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) listed hereunder, to pay the amounts mentioned in the respective Demand Notice/s, within 60 days from the date of the respective Notice/s, as per details given below. The undersigned have, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known respective addresses of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s). Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned, and the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s), may, if they so desire, collect the respective copy from the undersigned on any working day during normal office hours.

In connection with the above, Notice is hereby given, once again, to the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) to pay to **HDFC,** within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice, the amounts indicated herein below in their respective names, together with further interest as detailed in the said Demand Notices from the respective dates mentioned below in column (c) till the date of payment and / or realization, read with the loan agreement and other documents/writings, if any, executed by the said Borrower(s). As security for due repayment of the loan, the following Secured Asset(s) have been mortgaged to **HDFC** by the said Borrower (s) respectively.

Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset/s.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative (s)	Total Outstanding Dues	Date of Demand Notice	Description of Secured Asset in respect of which Security Interest has been created
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(f)
1	**Mr. Talluru Vuddaru Abhilash (Borrower)** Tredence Analytics Solutions Private Limited. **Designation:** Manager, **Department:** Tech EM, **Employee No:** 0358, Plot 180, EPIP Zone, 1st Floor, 2nd Phase, Near Silver Line Tech Park, Whitefiled, Immedihalli BO, Bengaluru 560066. **Also at:** Flat No 40244 Silver, Meadows 2nd Main, 2nd Cross, Talacauvery Layout, Basavanagar, Bangalore 560037 **Also at:** Flat-B-110, 1st Floor, Pavani Divine Apartments, S No.50,51/5, Sonnenahalli Village, Seetharamapalya Main Road, Talacauvery Layout, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru 560048.	**Loan Account No. 641454937 Rs.54,07,160/- (Rupees Fifty Four Lakhs Seven Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.09.2024**	**Schedule A:** All that piece and parcel of property **bearing Khata No.270**, Earlier Khata No.260, and Property No.270, (being portions of converted land in Sy Nos.50 & 51/5, old No.51/2 of Sonnenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk) presently situated at Sonnenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore, within the limits of administration of the Hoodi Sub Division of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore and bounded on the **East by :** Property belonging to Sri. Srikanth Reddy, Property belonging to Sri. Ganesh Reddy and thereafter Road; **West by :** Land in Sy.No.39 and Property belonging to Sri B. Narayana Reddy; **North by :** Property belonging to Sri. Shamanna Reddy, Sri B.Narayana Reddy, Sri. S.C. Narayana Reddy, Sri. Ganesh Reddy and Sri Purshotham Reddy; **South by :** Property belonging to Sri. Srikanth Reddy and other private property; **Schedule B : 658.12 Sq.feet,** undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule A Property (proportionate to the Schedule C Property which shall be handed over to the association of the Flat Owners as per the RERA Act 2016 and amendment issued from time to time). **Schedule C :** Residential Flat bearing **No.110, "B" Block, in First Floor,** measuring **1200 Sq.feet of Super Built up Area, (804.14 Sq.feet of Carpet Area),** containing Two Bedrooms, with RCC Roofing, Vitrified Tiles Flooring and Aluminum sliding windows, together with **One Covered Car Parking Space,** along with proportionate share in common areas such as Passages, Lobbies, Lift and Staircase contained in the multistoried building to be constructed on the Composite Schedule "A" property presently named and known as **"PAVANI DIVINE".**
2	**Mr. Talluru Vuddaru Abhilash (Borrower)** Tredence Analytics Solutions Private Limited. **Designation:** Manager, **Department:** Tech EM, **Employee No:** 0358, Plot 180, EPIP Zone, 1st Floor, 2nd Phase, Near Silver Line Tech Park, Whitefiled, Immedihalli BO, Bengaluru 560066. **Also at:** Flat-B-110, 1st Floor, Pavani Divine Apartments, S No.50,51/5, Sonnenahalli Village, Seetharamapalya Main Road, Talacauvery Layout, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru 560048. **Also at:** Flat-B-403, 4th Floor, Pavani Divine Apartment, S No 50,51/5, Sonnenahalli Village, Seetharamapalya Main Road, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru 560048.	**Loan Account No. 641454906 Rs.76,05,880/- (Rupees Seventy Six Lakhs Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.09.2024**	**Schedule A:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing **Khata No.270,** Earlier Khata No.260, and Property No.270, (being portions of converted land in Sy Nos.50 & 51/5, old No.51/2 of Sonnenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk) presently situated at Sonnenahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore, within the limits of administration of the Hoodi Sub Division of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore and bounded on the **East by :** Property belonging to Sri. Srikanth Reddy, Property belonging to Sri. Ganesh Reddy and thereafter Road; **West by :** Land in Sy.No.39 and Property belonging to Sri B. Narayana Reddy; **North by :** Property belonging to Sri. Shamanna Reddy, Sri B. Narayana Reddy, Sri. S.C. Narayana Reddy, Sri. Ganesh Reddy and Sri Purshotham Reddy; **South by :** Property belonging to Sri. Srikanth Reddy and other private property; **Schedule B : 969.63 Sq.feet,** undivided share, right, title and interest in the Schedule A Property (proportionate to the Schedule C Property which shall be handed over to the association of the Flat Owners as per the RERA Act 2016 and amendment issued from time to time). **Schedule C :** Residential **Flat bearing No.403 "B" Block, in Fourth Floor, measuring 1768 Sq.feet of Super Built up Area, (1221.38 Sq.feet of Carpet Area),** containing Three Bedrooms, with RCC Roofing, Vitrified Tiles Flooring and Aluminum sliding windows, together with **Two Covered Car Parking Spaces,** (Back to Back) along with proportionate share in common areas such as Passages, Lobbies, Lift and Staircase contained in the multistoried building to be constructed on the Composite Schedule "A" property presently named and known as **"PAVANI DIVINE".**
3	**Mr. Vijayakumar H R (Borrower)** **Govt of Karnataka, Designation:** Reporter **Department:** KLC, **Employee No:** 2193161 Room No 1 Ground Floor, Vidhanasoudha, Bengaluru 560001. **Mr. Pushpalatha (Co-Borrower)** **NIIT Technologies Limited** **Designation:** Senior Software Engg **Department:** IT, **Employee No:** 63000 3rd Floor C/O Toyota, Kirloskar Prestige St Marks, Road Bengaluru 560001 **Mr. Vijayakumar H R (Borrower)** **Mr. Pushpalatha (Co-Borrower)** **Both are residing at :** 269, Sumangali Sevasharam Road, RT Nagar, Cholanayakana halli, R T Nagar H O, Bengaluru 560032. **Also at:** Plot-212, Royale Township, S No 3, 30, 36/1-2, 37, 39/2A 40-44, 60, 63, 64/1-2, 65/1A, 65/2A, 65/2B, 65/3,66, Nagaruru Village, Dasanahalli Hobli, Bengaluru 562123.	**Loan Account No. 645219028 Rs.46,22,809/- (Rupees Forty Six Lakhs Twenty Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Nine Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.10.2024**	**Schedule A** : All that property measuring **50 Acres 29 ½ Guntas** (less the area relinquished) in Sy.Nos.3, 30, 36/1 (Old Sy.No.36), 36/2 (Old Sy.No.36), 37, 39/2A, 40, 41,42, 43, 44, 60, 63, 64/1, 64/2, 65/1A (Old Sy.No.65/1), 65/2A (Old Sy.No.65/2), 65/2B, 65/3 & 66, all situated at Nagaruru Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, duly converted for non-agricultural residential use vide Conversion Order bearing Nos.ALN(N)SR-167/04-05 dated 24.11.2004, No.ALN(N)SR-32/05-06 dated 30.04.2005, No.ALN(N)SR-30/05-06 dated 30.04.2005, No.ALN(N)SR-23/04-05 dated 30.04.2005, No.ALN(N)SR-29/05-06 dated 30.04.2005 No.ALN(N)SR-33/04-05 dated 30.04.2005 and No.ALN(N)SR-31/05-06 dated 30.04.2005, all issued by The Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore now developed as **"ROYALE TOWNSHIP"** and bounded by: **East :** Golden Palms and Spa Resorts and Private Property; **West :** Private Property; **North :** Private Property; and **South :** Private Property. **Schedule B :** All that piece and parcel of the immovable property being residential vacant site **bearing No.212,** Form-9/E-Swathu No.150200200700420665, Property No.818/212, carved out of Sy.No.30, in the Residential Layout known as **"ROYALE TOWNSHIP"** formed in the Schedule 'A Property, situated at Nagaruru Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, and **Measuring:** East to West : 18.288 Meters, North to South : 12.192 Meters, Totally measuring : **222.90 Square Meters, And bounded on the: - East by :** Road; **West by :** Site Nos.243 & 244, **North by** : Site No.211; **South by :** Site No.213;
4	**Mr. Kiran Rai T (Borrower)** **Hudson's Bay Services Private Limited** **Designation:** FC / Assistant Manager **Department:** AMHA / Finance **Employee No.:** 895413, 5th & 6th Floors Block Teck G, 3, Manyata Embass Special, Economic Zone, Nagawar, Bengaluru 560045. **Also at:** No.210 D, Thumbekodi Thumbekodi House, Ananthadi Village, Dakshina Kannada 574253. **Mr. Kiran Rai T (Borrower)** **Mrs. Prakruthi Bunts Tharanath (Co-Borrower) Both are residing at:** 7./A, 1st Floor, BRS, 11th Cross, St Anthoneys School Road, Kalkere Main Road, Doorvaninagar, Ramamurthy nagar, Bengaluru 560016. **Also at:** Flat-J-0337, 3rd Floor, Brigade Parkside North- B5/Tower J, S No 23/1, Kammagondanahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bengaluru 560092.	**Loan Account No. 1) 685110938 Rs.59,87,735/- 2) 702014664 Rs.7,28,347/- Total Amount: Rs.67,16,082/- (Rupees Sixty Seven Lakhs Sixteen Thousand Eighty Two Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.08.2024**	**Schedule A:** All that piece and parcel of property bearing **BBMP Khata No.007,** (earlier bearing survey No.23/1, converted from agricultural use to non agricultural/residential purposes vide the Official Memorandum dated 26/12/2011 in No.ALN. (N.Y.). S.R. 38/06-07 issued by Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District), situated at Kammagondanahalli Village, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring in total 5 acres 16 guntas and bounded on the: **East :** Kammagondanahalli - Abbigere Main Road and property bearing Survey No. 24; **West :** Property bearing survey Nos. 16, 17 and 21, **North :** Property bearing survey Nos. 22 and 27; and **South :** Property bearing survey Nos. 23/2 and 24. Total extent of land is 21852.84 square meters. and out of which 2154.80 square meters is relinquished for Park and Open Spaces in favour of Bangalore Development Authority an area measuring 1077.40 square meters is reserved for Civic Amenities and an area measuring 305 square meters is handed over to BBMP for road widening. After deducting the said relinquished area and reserved area out of the total area, the land available for UDS is 18315.64 square meters. **Schedule B: 468.58 square feet** (i.e., 43.53 square meters) undivided share, right, title, interest and ownership in Schedule 'A' Property. **Schedule C:** All that Residential Apartment bearing **No. J 0337 in Third Floor of Tower 'J' in Brigade square feet** Parkside North' built on Schedule `A' Property and measuring 637 square (59.14 square meters) of Carpet Area, 39 square feet (3.66 meters) of Balcony Area, 468 square feet (43.48 square meters) of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, other areas of common use and totally measuring **1144 square feet** (106.28 square meters) of saleable super built-up area with exclusive right of usage of **One covered car parking space** in the Lower/Upper Basement level/Ground Level and the apartment is bounded by: **East :** Open Space at Brigade Parkside North, **West :** Apartment No. K 0341 at Brigade Parkside North, **North :** Open Space at Brigade Parkside North, **South :** Apartment No. J 0336 at Brigade Parkside North.
5	**Mr. Pandey Jitendra (Borrower)** **Stonehill Education Foundation** **Designation:** MYP Coordinator **Department:** Secondary Tarahunise Village, Jala Hobli, Bettahalsur, Bengaluru 562157. **Also at:** 204, Edward House, 37 Pottery Road, Frazer Town, East Station Back Gate, Bengaluru 560005. **Also at:** B168, Savitri Niwas, NU-3, Apnanagar, Kutch, Ambe Mata Temple, Gujarat 370201 **Also at:** Flat-E306, 3rd Floor, Vanamali Apartment, S No 12/2, Kyalasanahalli Village, Horamavu, K R Puram Hobli, Bengaluru 560036.	**Loan Account No. 660329656 Rs.25,18,506/- (Rupees Twenty Five Lakhs Eighteen Thousand Five Hundred and Six Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.09.2024**	**Schedule A :** All that piece and parcel of residential Converted land comprised in Survey **No. 12/2,** measuring 1 Acre 38 Guntas, excluding 2 Guntas of Kharab land, situated at Kyalasanahalli Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore District, converted for residential purpose vide Conversion Order dated 19th April 2010, vide No. ALN (E):SR(KH):155 of 2009-10, issued by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, presently within the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Ward No. 25 Horamavu, having new BBMP Khata No. 33, butted and bounded as follows: **On the East by** : Survey No. 88; **On the West by :** Survey No. 11 & Road, **On the North by** : Survey No. 12/1; **On the South by** : Survey No. 10. **Schedule B:** An undivided share measuring **348 Square Feet** in the land comprised in the Schedule 'A' Property. **Schedule C:** A One Bedroom Apartment bearing **No.E-306**, having new BBMP Khata No. 33/146, on the 3rd Floor in the residential apartment complex known as "VANAMALI" constructed on the Schedule A' Property, having a super built up area of 700 square feet (which is inclusive of balconies, utility space and walls of the Apartment), consisting of One Bed Room, One Hall, One Bathroom, Kitchen and proportionate common area together with an exclusive right to use the limited common facility and **One Covered Car parking numbered as E-306** allotted separately as above The building is RCC framed structure with Vitrified flooring, UPVC windows and Wooden doors connected with electricity and water supply.
6	**Mr. Kathem Reddy Manohar Reddy (Borrower)** Altran Technologies India Private Limited **Designation:** Manager **Department:** FTE, M-01, 1st Floor, East Wing, Prestige Sterling Square, Off Lavelle Road, Mueseum Road, Bengaluru 560001 **Also at:** Flat 201, Viceroy Splendor Apartment, 1st Main, Kasavanahalli Carmelaram, Blooming Dales Layout, Bengaluru 560035 **Also at:** Unit-170, Vsl Srinidhi Green Age, S No 212/2, 213/2, 214, 215/3 & 216/3, Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru 562125.	**Loan Account No. 1) 676145220 Rs.37,59,813/- 2) 677501745 Rs. 1,08,088/- Total Amount Rs.38,67,901/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakhs Sixty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred and One Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.06.2024**	**Schedule A : Item I:** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land bearing **Sy.No.213, New Sy No.213/2,** earlier portion of Sy No. 108 measuring 2 acres 20 guntas (converted vide Official Memorandum dated 05.05.2006 & Modified Official Memorandum dated 23.06.2014 No.ALNA)(S)SR35/2005-06 both issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded as follows: **East by :** Remaining land in Sy No.213, now bearing Sy No.213/ 1, **West by** : Land bearing Sy No. 108, **North by** : Land bearing Sy No. 164 & 212/2, **South by** : Land bearing Sy No.214. **Item II:** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land bearing **Sy No. 214,** earlier portion of old Sy No. 108 measuring 5 acres (converted vide Official Memorandum dated 05.05.2006 & Modified official Memorandum dated 23.06.2014 No.ALN(A)(S)SR35/ 2005-06 both issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded as follows: **East by :** Land bearing Sy No. 108, **West by :** Land bearing Sy No. 108, **North by :** Land bearing Sy No. 213/1 & 213/2, **South by :** Land bearing Sy No.215/1,2,3. **Item III :** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land bearing **Sy No. 215,** now bearing Sy No.215/3, earlier portion of old Sy No. 108 measuring 2 acres 20 Guntas (converted vide Official Memorandum dated 05.05.2006 & Modified official Memorandum dated 23.06.2014 No.ALN(A)(S)SR35/2005-06 both issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and bounded as follows: **East by :** Remaining portion of land bearing Sy No.215, now bearing Sy No.215/2, **West by** : Land bearing Sy No. 108, **North by :** Land bearing Sy No.214, **South by** : Land bearing Sy No.216, now bearing Sy No.216/3. **Item IV:** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land bearing **New Hissa Sy No.212/2,** portion of Sy No.212, earlier portion of land bearing old Sy No. 108 measuring 2 acres (converted vide Official Memorandum dated 05.05.2006 & Modified Official Memorandum dated23.06.2014 No.ALN(A)(S)SR35/2005-06 both issued by the Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and bounded as follows : **East by :** Portion of land bearing Sy No.212 presently 212/1, **West by** : Land bearing Sy No. 164, **North by** : Land bearing Sy No. 124, **South by** : Land bearing Sy No.213 presently 213/1 & 213/2. **Item V:** All that piece and parcel of residentially converted land bearing **New Hissa Sy No.216/3,** portion of Sy No.216, earlier portion of land bearing old Sy No. 108 measuring 2 acres (converted vide Official Memorandum dated 05.05.2006 & Modified Official Memorandum dated 23.06.2014 No.ALN(A)(S)SR35/2005-06 both issued by the Deputy Commissioner Bangalore District, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, and bounded as follows : **East by :** Portion of land bearing Sy No.216 presently 216/2, **West by** : Land bearing Sy No. 108, **North by :** Land bearing Sy No.215 presently 215/3, **South by :** Land bearing Sy No. 108. **Schedule B;** All that vacant residential Vacant **Site No. 170,** Khatha No. 342/170 bearing PID Number - 150200101600620808 in the residential layout known as **"VSL SRINIDHI GREENAGE"** formed in Survey Nos. 212/2, 213/2, 214, 215/3 and 216/3 (converted for residential purpose vide Official Memorandum dated 05.05.2006 & Modified Official Memorandum dated 23.06.2014 vide order No. ALN(A)(S)SR35/2005-06 both issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore) situated at Neriga Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Urban District and as per the layout plan approved by the Anekal Planning Authority vide its Authority Committee 75th meeting and its subject No. 21, Dated: 09.07.2021 measuring East to West 12. 19 Meters (40 Feet) and North to South 9.14 Meters (30 Feet), totally measuring 111.41 Square Meters (1200 Square Feet) and bounded on: **East by :** Site No. 153, **West by** : 9 Meter Road, **North by** : Site No. 171, **South by** : Site No. 169.
7	**Mr. Junaidh Adhnan (Borrower)** **Nestaway Technologies Private Limited** **Designation:** Customer Champion **Department:** Customer Experience No 1546 & 1547, 19th Main Sector 1, HSR Layout, Bengaluru 560102 **Also at: Dreamplug Technologies Private Limited, Designation:** Senior Associate, **Department:** Operations 3rd Floor, Salarpuria Emporium, Reliance Digital Building, 100 Feet Road, HAL II Stage, Indira Nagar, Binnamangala II,Bengaluru 560038 **Mrs. Sheriff Riyaz (Co-Borrower)** **NEC Technologies India Limited** **Designation:** Senior Project Lead **Department:** CNS Projects **Employee No.:** 0400670 #4/1, Bhavani Nagar, IBC Knowledge Park, Diary Circle, Bangalore 560002. **Mr. Junaidh Adhnan (Borrower)** **Mrs. Sheriff Riyaz (Co-Borrower) Both are residingat:** Flat 202, Cauvery Apartments, 7th Cross, 11 Block, Amrutha halli, Tala cauvery Layout, Bengaluru 560024. **Also at:** Flat No.414, Petra Park Apartment, Ramamurthy Nagar Main Road, Ramamurthy Nagar, Opp. Manipal Nursing Home, Bengaluru -560016.	**Loan Account No. 1) 653539693 Rs.37,15,888/- 2) 655103115 Rs.63,226/- 3) 669125466 Rs. 7,28,610/- Total Amount Rs.45,07,724/- (Rupees Forty Five Lakhs Seven Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Four Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.09.2024**	**Schedule A :** All that piece and parcel of property bearing **No. 105,** Katha No. 1701, measuring 74052 sq. feet, situated at Kowdenahally Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore and bound on the: **East by :** Bydara Muneappa Hola (Dry land), **West by :** Bydara Muneappa Hola (Dry Land), **North by** : Rukkamma's dry land, **South by :** Road. **Schedule B:** The Apartment bearing **Flat No. 414, of Emerald Block, on 3rd Floor,** having 3 Bedrooms, one Hall, drawing Room, attached bath room, measuring 1787.71 sq. feet of built-up area, RCC roofed, Mosaic Flooring, Wooden Doors with **One Covered Car park area** in the building known as **"PETRA PARK APARTMENT",** constructed on the Schedule "A" property, situated at Kowdenahally, earlier K.R. Pura CMC, Ward No. 10, Presently under BBMP limits of Bangalore. **Schedule C: 740.20 sq. feet** of undivided share, right, interest and title of total area of land measuring 6879,25 sq. feet of land in schedule "A" property. The Apartment has RCC Roofing, Tiles/ Granite flooring, Steel Windows and has **covered car park in the basement.** The Apartment has electricity and water connection.
8	**Mr.Saidu Krishna Mohan (Borrower)** **Dell International Service India Private Limited, Designation:** Software Dev Senior, **Department:** IT, **Employee No:** 542644, No 123 EPIP Phase II White Field, Industrial Area, White Field, Bengaluru 560066. **Also at:** No.92, Muninanjappa Garden, Kodigehalli Road, Ayyappa Nagar, K R Puram, Opp To Alfa Garden, Bengaluru -560036. **Also at:** Flat No.WC-205, 2nd Floor, Tower Shanthi, Sai Gardens Apartment, Sy: 103-105,107-116, Seegehalli Village, Kadugodi, White Field, Bangalore -560067.	**Loan Account No. 615775594 Rs.13,34,710/- (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Thirty Four Thousand Seven Hundred and Ten Only) as on 30.11.2024**	**13.12.2024 ..... N.P.A. Date: (e) 03.01.2024**	All that piece and parcel of Property being residential Flat bearing **No. WC-205, in the Second Floor,** Present E-Property No.150200401700521999, E-Katha No.640/WC/205, of WC" Block i.e. **SHANTHI in 'SEGMENT III A',**(earlier known as Segment III) measuring about **775 Sq.feet, super built up area,** containing Two bed rooms, together with RCC Roofing, Ceramic flooring, with, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase etc., in the multistoried residential buildings complex known as **"SAI GARDENS"** constructed over all that piece and parcel of converted land admeasuring 4611.62 Sq.Mtrs., being the portion of entire 57 Acres of land in Sy Nos. 103 to 105 and 107 to 116, situated at Seegehalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, earlier Hoskote Taluk, presently Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Dist., along with 1.25% of undivided share of Interest in the total land measuring 4611.62 Sq.Mtrs and bounded on the: **East by :** Internal Road: **West by :** Segment IIIC, **North by** : Loop Street; **South by :** Nala;

*with further interest cost, expenses, and charges as applicable incurred till the date of payment and / or realization. If the said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) fail to make payment to **HDFC Bank Limited** as aforesaid, then **HDFC Bank Limited** shall proceed against the above Secured Asset / Immovable Property under Section 13 (4) of the said Act and the applicable Rules entirely at the risk of the said Borrower(s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) as to the costs and consequences.

The said Borrower (s) / Legal Heir(s) / Legal Representative(s) are prohibited under the said Act to transfer the aforesaid Secured Asset / Immovable Property, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of **HDFC Bank Limited**. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions

Ukrainian drones strike Russian fuel depot

Explosion seen at Stalnoy Kon oil terminal in Oryol region, say reports; Putin vows to retaliate for Kazan attack

KYIV

UKRAINIAN drones struck a major Russian fuel depot for the second time in just over a week on Sunday, according to a senior Russian regional official, as part of a "massive" cross-border attack on fuel and energy facilities that Kyiv says supply Moscow's military.

The strikes came days after Russia launched sweeping attacks on Ukraine's already battered energy grid, threatening to plunge thousands of homes into darkness as winter tightens its grip over the region, and as Russia's all-out invasion of its neighbor nears the three-year mark.

A fire broke out at the Stalnoy Kon oil terminal in Russia's southern Oryol region, local Gov. Andrey Klychkov said in a post on the Telegram messaging app, adding Russian forces downed 20 drones targeting "fuel and energy infrastructure" in the province.

> **Whoever and however much they try to destroy, they will face many times more destruction themselves and will regret what they are trying to do in our country**
>
> Vladimir Putin, Russian President

Russian independent news outlet *Astra* shared video of what it said was an explosion at the site, showing a massive orange blaze lighting up the night sky. While the clip could not be independently verified, it was later shared by a Ukrainian security official who described it as footage from Oryol.

The official, Andriy Kovalenko of the Council of National Security and Defence, claimed the Oryol fuel depot supplies Russian forces fighting in Ukraine and southern Russia, including the Kursk province where Ukrainian troops have dug in following a lightning incursion in August.

According to Klychkov, the Russian local governor, the fire was extinguished hours later and did not cause casualties or "significant" damage.

Ukraine's military previously claimed to have struck the Stalnoy Kon terminal with drones on Dec 14, causing a "powerful" blaze.

Russian President Vladimir Putin attends the opening ceremony of air and road infrastructure facilities in Russian regions via video link in Moscow on Sunday | AFP

Meanwhile, Russian President Vladimir Putin on Sunday vowed to bring more "destruction" to Ukraine in retaliation for a drone attack on the central Russian city of Kazan a day earlier.

Russia accused Ukraine of a "massive" drone attack that hit a luxury apartment block in the city, some 1,000 kms from the frontier.

"Whoever, and however much they try to destroy, they will face many times more destruction themselves and will regret what they are trying to do in our country," Putin said during a televised government meeting on Sunday.

Putin was addressing the local leader of Tatarstan, the region where Kazan is located, in a road-opening ceremony via video link. The strike on Kazan was the latest in a series of escalating aerial attacks in the three-year conflict. *AP/AFP*

Control of route along Gaza-Egypt remains sore point

JERUSALEM

AS mediators in Cairo and Doha continued efforts to reach a ceasefire and hostage release deal between Israel and the Hamas, international reports purported to shed some light on some of the gaps remaining between the two parties, *The Times of Israel* reported.

An Egyptian report on Sunday claimed that Israel is demanding the freeing of 11 Israeli men in the first round of hostage releases, while a report from the *BBC* the previous evening said that the talks are 90% agreed upon, although control of the Philadelphi Corridor along the Gaza-Egypt border remains a sticking point.

Israel has been largely mum on any recent developments in the negotiations being brokered by Egypt and Qatar, with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu saying last week that "that the less we discuss this, the better." The families of the hostages still being held captive have demanded in public statements that a deal be reached to release all of their loved ones in one stage, calling a partial release a "death sentence" for those left behind.

Unnamed sources told Egypt's *Al-Ghad* outlet on Sunday that Israel has requested the inclusion of 11 men on the list of hostages to be released in the first phase of a potential hostage-ceasefire deal, with Hamas apparently demanding further compensation in return for setting them free.

The report also claimed that talks were being held on a gradual Israeli withdrawal from the Philadelphi Corridor along the Gaza-Egypt border, a route that Netanyahu long vowed would remain under Israeli control, although Defense Minister Israel Katz reportedly said last week that the corridor "would not constitute an obstacle to a deal; there is flexibility from Hamas on this issue."

But a senior Palestinian official involved in the negotiations told the *BBC* on Saturday that Philadelphi is one of the areas of contention, claiming that 90% of other issues in the talks have already been decided upon.

Apprentice producer Mark named special envoy to UK

WEST PALM BEACH

MARK Burnett, the power producer who helped reintroduce Donald Trump to a national television audience with "The Apprentice", is being tapped by the president-elect as special envoy to the United Kingdom in his upcoming administration.

"With a distinguished career in television production and business, Mark brings a unique blend of diplomatic acumen and international recognition to this important role," Trump announced on Saturday.

Burnett, who was born in London, helped produce hits "Survivor" and "The Voice", but is perhaps best known for teaming up with Trump for "The Apprentice", which first aired on NBC in 2004.

Trump had been well-known in real estate and pop culture circles for decades. But the show helped again make him a household name – though Trump severed ties with NBC in 2015, the same year he launched his first White House run. Trump's first campaign in 2016 was rocked by allegations about his conduct on "The Apprentice" and other appearances during his association with *NBC*, notably in footage in which he said he could sexually assault women and get away with it because he was a "star". Almost a decade after he left his reality TV role, Trump's television career remains central to his biography political rise. *AP*

Pentagon report on PLA slanderous, says China

BEIJING

THE Chinese military has denounced a recent Pentagon report alleging corruption is denting PLA's modernisation, saying the report "desperately slandered" the Chinese military and "exaggerated" the military threat posed by China.

Reacting to the Pentagon's report to the US Congress titled "Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China" released recently, the Chinese Defence Ministry accused Washington of 'fabricating false narratives' against the People's Liberation Army (PLA).

The report "misinterpreted China's defence policies, speculated about China's military capacity development, flagrantly interfered in China's domestic affairs, desperately slandered the Chinese military and exaggerated the so-called military threat posed by China,' Defence spokesperson Zhang Xiaogang said on Saturday.

China "strongly deplores and firmly opposes" all these statements, Zhang was quoted as saying by *Xinhua* agency.

Zhang said that for over 20 years, the US has been publishing such deceptive and hypocritical reports year after year, only seeking excuses for the development of its own military capacity and misleading public opinion.

"We urge the US to stop fabricating false narratives, rectify the erroneous perception of China, and push for the healthy, stable development of bilateral and military relations," he said. The 'war-addicted' United States has become the biggest destroyer of international order and the greatest threat to global security, Zhang said.

On China's development of nuclear weapons, Zhang said that the intention is to safeguard the country's strategic security. But the US, which has the largest and most advanced nuclear arsenal in the world, sticks stubbornly to the policy of first use of nuclear weapons, undermining international and regional peace and stability, he added.

He also expressed the hope that the US would adopt a more positive, rational attitude toward China and the development of the Chinese military. *PTI*

Beijing warns Washington for arms sales to Taipei

The Chinese government protested on Sunday the latest American announcements of military sales and assistance to Taiwan, warning the United States that it is "playing with fire". US President Joe Biden authorised on Saturday the provision of up to $571 million in Defence Department material and services and in military education and training for Taiwan. Separately, the Defence Department said Friday that $295 million in military sales had been approved. A Chinese Foreign Ministry statement urged the US to stop arming Taiwan and stop what it called 'dangerous moves that undermine peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait.' Taiwan is a democratic island of 23 million people that the Chinese government claims as its territory and says must come under its control

Shadow foreign secy Priti Patel wants China on risk security list

Britain's shadow foreign secretary Priti Patel on Sunday called for China to be placed high up on the list of countries that pose a national security risk to the UK. "It's clearly complicated legislation, but China should always be up there," Priti Patel told 'The Sunday Times' in n interview when asked if China should be placed on a proposed Foreign Influence Registration Scheme. The list is designed to compel all those working for overseas powers to declare their lobbying to avert any security risks. The 52-year-old Indian-origin frontline member of the Opposition Conservative Party led by Kemi Badenoch pointed with concern to the recent scandal engulfing an alleged Chinese spy gaining access to Buckingham Palace circles through Prince Andrew, the younger brother of King

EXPRESS READ

Will shut TikTok for a yr from 2025: Albanian PM

Tirana: Albanian Prime Minister Edi Rama said on Saturday the government would shut down social network TikTok for at least a year from 2025. "We are going to chase this thug out of our neighbourhood for one year", Rama told a meeting with Albanian teachers, parents and psychologists here

Women-only flight lands in Iran's Mashhad

TEHRAN

AN Iranian airline conducted a rare women-only flight on Sunday, landing for the first time in the holy city of Mashhad in the northeast, according to the official *IRNA* news agency.

The Aseman Airlines flight by Shahrzad Shams – one of Iran's pioneering women pilots – carried 110 passengers on board, according to *IRNA*.

Dubbed the "Iran Banoo" (Iran Lady) flight, the plane touched down at Hasheminejad International Airport in Mashhad, Iran's second-largest city and home to the revered shrine of Imam Reza, one of Shiite Islam's holiest sites.

"This is the first time a women-only flight, with both female passengers and crew, lands in Mashhad," *IRNA* said, without specifying the flight's departure point.

The trip to Mashhad coincided with the anniversary of the birth of Fatima al-Zahra, the daughter of the Prophet Mohammed, according to *IRNA*.

Iran's aviation industry has seen some women become pilots in recent years, though it remains uncommon. In October 2019, pilot Neshat Jahandari and co-pilot Forouz Firouzi became the first women to fly a passenger flight in Iran. *AFP*

SKYFALL

Debris of an ambulance helicoper after it crashed in southwestern Turkey. The helicopter hit the fourth floor of the hospital during takeoff killing two pilots, a doctor and a worker on board to pick up a patient nearby. Local governor noted that there was heavy fog at the time of takeoff | AFP

38 people dead, 100 others missing in Congo after crowded ferry capsizes

KINSHASA

A ferry overloaded with people returning home for Christmas capsized on the Busira River in northeastern Congo, leaving 38 people confirmed dead and over 100 others missing, officials and eyewitnesses said on Saturday. Twenty people have been rescued so far.

The sinking of the ferry late on Friday came less than four days after another boat capsized in the country's northeast, killing 25 people.

The ferry was traveling as part of a convoy of other vessels and the passengers were primarily merchants returning home for Christmas, said Joseph Joseph Kangolingoli, the mayor of Ingende, the last town on the river before the site of the accident.

According to Ingende resident Ndolo Kaddy, the ferry contained "more than 400 people because it made two ports, Ingende and Loolo, on the way to Boende, so there is reason to believe there were more deaths."

Congolese officials have often warned against overloading boats and vowed to punish those violating safety measures on rivers.

However, in remote areas many people cannot afford public transportation on the few available roads.

At least 78 people drowned in October when an overloaded boat sank in the country's east while 80 lost their lives in a similar accident near Kinshasa in June. The latest accident prompted anger at the government for not equipping the convoy with flotation devices.

Nesty Bonina, a member of the local government and a prominent figure in Mbandaka, the capital of the Equateur province where the ferry sank, condemned authorities for not properly handling the recent sinkings. "How can a ship navigate at night under the watchful eye of river service agents? And now we're recording over a hundred deaths," said Bonina. The capsizing of overloaded boats is becoming increasingly frequent in this nation.

ASIA MATTERS

SINGAPORE

3 SR EXECUTIVES OF POSTAL SERVICE FIRED

A Singapore Post fired three of its senior executives after a probe into a whistleblower's report found "grossly negligent" behaviour in their handling of internal investigations. As part of disciplinary proceedings, SingPost terminated the employment of its group chief executive officer (GCEO) Vincent Phang, group chief financial officer (GCFO) Vincent Yik and chief executive of the company's international business unit (CEO-IBU) Li Yu, *CNA* reported. An investigation by SingPost found they had committed serious breaches of the company's code of conduct.

THAILAND

CYBERCRIME PLUMMETS

The damages caused by cybercrime have plummeted by 44% since the 1441 Anti-Online Scam Operation Centre Hotline was established last year, *BP* reported. Ekapong Rimcharone, the inspector-general of digital ministry, said the centre aims to tackle fast-evolving online threats with collaborative efforts from various sectors.

INDONESIA

GOVT MULLS CUTTING PRISON TERM

Indonesia's counter-terrorism agency has proposed cutting the prison terms of former Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) members who have declared support for the group's dissolution, in a bid to get more militants to surrender to the authorities, *The Straits Times* reported. National Counterterrorism Agency chief Eddy Hartono said it plans to recommend sentence reductions for more than 180 individuals to the immigration and penitentiary ministry."We appeal to all ex-JI members to become role models and live as citizens who respect religious tolerance," said Eddy.

Germany received tipoffs about attacker last year

MAGDEBURG

GERMAN authorities said they received tipoffs last year about the suspect in a car attack at a Christmas market in Magdeburg as more details emerged on Sunday about the five people killed.

The head of the Federal Criminal Police Office, Holger Münch, said in an interview on the German broadcaster *ZDF* on Saturday that his office received a tipoff from Saudi Arabia in November 2023, which led authorities to launch "appropriate investigative measures."

"The man also published a huge number of posts on the internet. He also had contact with various authorities, made insults and even threats. However, he was not known to have committed acts of violence," said Münch, whose office is the German equivalent of the FBI.

He said that the warnings, however, proved to be very unspecific.

People lay flowers at the entrance of a church near the Christmas Market | AP

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees also said it received a tipoff about the suspect in the late summer of last year. "This was taken seriously, like every other of the numerous tips," the office said on X on Saturday. But it also noted that it is not an investigative authority and that it referred the information to the responsible authorities.

Authorities have identified the suspect as a Saudi doctor who arrived in Germany in 2006 and had received permanent residency. Police haven't publicly named the suspect, in line with privacy rules, but some German news outlets have identified him as Taleb A and reported that he was a specialist in psychiatry. *AP*

₹976 CR have been pulled out from equities by FPIs this week.

Credit card defaults could hurt you badly now

With SC rejecting 30% cap on credit card interest rates, card issuers will now have more flexibility to set rates

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

IN a big relief for credit card issuers who are facing a rising tide of bad loans since the past few quarters (delinquencies are at nearing double-digit mark now; in June 2024 quarter it soared by 110 bps to 7.6%) the Supreme Court, over the weekend, has given them a free hand to set interest rates for late payments, defaults and even on the outstanding dues.

Not that their hands were tied till now--in a strict legal sense they were, but not in practice as even when the matter was subjudice since February 2009, card issuers were regularly increasing their interest rates which now vary from a low of 45% (3.8% per month) to a high of 55% annually or 4.5% per month on certain cards.

The December 20 ruling by a two-judge Supreme Court bench of Bela Trivedi and Satish Chandra Sharma, goes back to a 2008 order of the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) that capped credit card interest rates at 30% per annum. The top court ruling has put an end to the 16-year-old case filed by foreign banks like Standard Chartered Bank, Citibank, American Express, and HSBC among others, challenging the NCDRC order on a petition by Awaz Foundation, a non-profit. The apex court had stayed NCRDC order in February 2009.

The Reserve Bank also opposed capping interest rates saying it does not directly regulate banks on rates rather is left to their boards.

Petitioner banks questioning NCDRC's jurisdiction to fix a ceiling on interest rates said

advising interest rate is a statutory field reserved for the Reserve Bank.

NCDRC had said charging interest rates in excess of 30% was an unfair trade practice and said in most markets the rates are under 25%. For instance, in the US it's just 9.9%, in England it's 16.9%, Australia (18-24%), and 24-32% in Hong Kong. But in the Philippines, Indonesia, and Mexico, credit card interest rates vary from 36-50%.

"If the RBI is considered to be one of the watchdogs of finance and the economy and the prevailing credit conditions are such as should invite its policy intervention, then, in our view, there is no justifiable ground for not controlling the banks, which exploit the borrowers by charging exorbitant rates of interest varying from 36% to 49% per annum, in case of default by the credit-card holders to pay before the due date," the NCDRC had said in its order and capped the annual charges at 30% saying there is no justifiable ground for adopting the highest rate of interest here.

With the 30% cap going, card issuers will now have more flexibility to set interest rates on late credit card payments, according to experts.

The order can lead to higher charges for consumers who miss timely repayments. It also allows issuers to adjust rates based on market conditions and individual risk assessments. Banks now have the flexibility to charge late payment charges higher than 30%, especially from high-risk customers, according to Gauhar Mirza of Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas.

Now card issuers can set interest rates that align with individual credit risks, and customers with poor repayment history may be charged higher rates, helping control defaults. Banks can also structure credit card offerings more competitively without being bound by an arbitrary cap, according to Sanjay Gupta of SNG & Partners.

IN CONVERSATION

VIKRAM GULATI
Country Head of Toyota Kirloskar Motor

We expect 2025 to be a strong year for us in India: Toyota

AT a time when most automakers are grappling with sluggish demand, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM) is achieving impressive double-digit sales growth each month. This success is driven by its strong SUV portfolio and the strategic partnership between its parent company, Toyota Motor Corporation, and Suzuki Motor Corporation. The Japanese automaker is set to surpass the 3 lakh annual sales milestone in the financial year 2025 and expects this robust growth to continue into the next fiscal year. Unlike other carmakers focusing heavily on electrification, TKM has adopted a unique strategy by offering a broader range of green powertrain options, emphasizing its ultimate goal of reducing carbon emissions. In an interaction with TNIE's **Arshad Khan**, Vikram Gulati - Country Head of TKM and Sabari Manohar - Vice President of Sales at TKM discuss Toyota's growth in India, their approach towards different powertrains and investments by the company. Edited excerpts:

Competition is launching one EV after another. When can we see an EV from Toyota?

Toyota's journey with electric vehicles (EVs) started as early as 1997. Next year, we are poised to sell approximately 1.5 million EVs globally, reflecting the progress and leadership we've established in this domain. EV technology itself is not a challenge for us, given our experience with selling over 29 million electrified vehicles worldwide, most of which are hybrids. Our approach is not tied to a specific technology but rather to meeting societal needs. We aim to provide practical and greener solutions that align with societal demands, national goals, and the aspirations of consumers. For us, all technologies are open.

What do you think will be the mix between different powertrains in the next five years or so?

What's happening globally is very difficult to predict. People were talking about the death of ICE and all but all the numbers are being rewritten. Predicting the future of automotive technology is challenging due to unforeseen factors such as COVID-19 disruptions, supply chain issues, and evolving geopolitical and geoeconomic scenarios. However, we believe that the future will rely on multiple technologies coexisting to serve diverse needs. For instance, the government of India is pushing for biofuels like ethanol and compressed biogas (CBG), which are already showing significant environmental and economic benefits.

We've been expanding our reach and establishing closer connections with customers through over 1,100 customer touchpoints. We remain confident about our growth prospects.

Toyota's market share in India has grown significantly in the last few years. What are your future aspirations in terms of market position?

While we have seen our market share grow from under 5% in 2019 to nearly 8% now, we don't chase specific numbers. Our philosophy is to focus on providing value through reliable products and exceptional customer service, which naturally translates into growth. We've been expanding our reach and establishing closer connections with customers through over 1,100 customer touchpoints.

Do you anticipate continued double-digit growth for Toyota in India in the coming years?

We remain confident about our growth prospects. The momentum generated by our investments, robust product lineup, and customer-centric approach positions us well for the future. While precise growth figures are difficult to predict, the foundation we've built over the last few years ensures a positive trajectory. Even with current challenges, we expect 2025 to be a strong year for Toyota in India.

What updates can you share about Toyota's investments in India, including the Maharashtra project?

Toyota has made significant investments in India, including ₹4,800 crore announced in May 2022 and another ₹3,300 crore in November 2023 for a third plant in Karnataka. The Maharashtra project is progressing well, with a phased rollout planned for 2028-29.

MONEY-WISE

KNOW LINEAR AND LATERAL THINKING

FINANCIAL ADVICE

ASHOK KUMAR
Head of LKW-India.
He can be reached at ceolotus@hotmail.com
(Views expressed here are personal)

AS a result of geo-political tensions, scheduled general elections in India during the mid-year and in the USA towards the end of the year as well as valuations that had sky-rocketed, volatility during 2024 was anticipated by many of us.

What was not anticipated though was a fresh indictment with legal implications on the Adani group by the US SEC. The Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) who were already nervous about the rich valuations of Indian stocks and had already commenced profit-booking, then started selling even more aggressively leading to a 10% correction in the key indices. The silver lining here was that an overheated market let off steam and there were value picks available for the taking among the lot of shares whose prices got hammered down during the selling spree. Is the selling over? Well, that is anybody's guess but the fact remains that, notwithstanding all other constraints and negatives, the Indian economy is clearly headed in one direction over the long-term and that is – upwards. So, once the dust settles, will those FIIs be back, sooner rather than later, on a buying spree and will that trigger a sharp surge in the Indian indices? Time alone can tell, though as I always say, if I were a betting man, that is where my money would be. When that will happen, if it does, is really the tougher question to answer.

For long, at the guest lectures I conduct at B-Schools I have spoken to the students about the difference between linear and lateral thinking while investing at the bourses. Back at my place of work, we interact with a fair number of well-educated High Net Worth Investor (HNI) patrons from urban areas across the globe, who have expectedly discussed the state of the market and the road ahead with my team.

Most of them have even decided to top up their investments via the SIP / STP route which, I believe, is an optimal linear decision. A few of our HNI patrons, as I have mentioned before in my column, hail from rural areas across India and what they lack in terms of educational 'labels', they more than make up with their lateral thinking ability to sense a killing whenever the opportunity presents itself. A couple of them surprised us by simply asking to invest fairly large sums via the Lump-Sum route, sans any queries on the state of and outlook for the equity market. As a matter of abundant caution and professional compliance, my team did explain the pros and cons of making lump-sum investments and that too in a market that seems precariously perched in the near-term. Well, their line of thinking was simple.

The investments they were making were for their next generation and with a time frame of a decade in hand, they were confident that the returns would be handsome. Given that kind of clarity of thought, there was little left to debate. Linear or lateral thought, it is the ability to ride risks and with immense patience, that separates 'few winners' from the 'many also rans' in any equity market. Decide which you want to be as 2024 fades and 2025 closes in.

MONEY MATTERS

IS ALGORITHMIC TRADING FOR YOU?

TECHNOLOGY should expand the scope of human skills. There are things that you can do yourself using your skills. You can use technology to support your skills and create something even more potent than before. The evolution of the stock market is remarkable. There was a time in India when it was a closed-member group. From then on, it has evolved into a vibrant trading system with shares worth $5.5 trillion traded daily. From days when physical paper and settlement systems ran into weeks or months, India can boast of being among the most efficient trading systems in the world. The settlement of trades determines the efficiency of such a system. The buyer should get the shares or securities they seek, and the seller should get the money at a designated time.

Investing in the stock market is not for the faint-hearted. While we have a stock market trading system that guarantees all trades, growing your money and protecting it from losses and volatility is not guaranteed. For that, you need knowledge or expert support. Knowledge requires you to make all the effort to understand the way prices of securities move. You must know the right time to buy or sell a security.

Expert support can come to you through people who are registered, financial advisors or research analysts. They track fundamental and technical factors that drive shares, bonds or other securities like derivatives or commodities futures. If you do not want to use their advice and trade or invest, you can always rely on mutual funds to help you.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

Fund managers at mutual funds are equipped to make all the effort to identify the right time to buy or sell securities. You can choose your sectors or invest in a diversified fund to benefit from their expertise.

There are portfolio management services or wealth managers for the more discerning investors. They give personalised investment advice and manage their portfolios for a fee.

Technology is rapidly changing the way stock market trading takes place. A lot of high-networth individuals and institutional investors use algorithm-based trading systems.They feed the relevant data and create trading and investment strategies based on the target prices of securities. Those programmes are fed into the stock market system.

An Algo trading platform is facilitated by application programming interfaces or APIs that set rules and protocols, allowing different software applications to communicate and exchange data.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), the stock market regulator, announced a consulting paper proposing to extend technology's benefit to individual investors.

If you are keen to explore such a facility, there is a minimum threshold for your investment. At the same time, you must talk to your financial advisor stockbroker before enabling such a mechanism. Your trading and investment strategy must be based on your ability to take risks and financial goals.

When to use technology

You can use the help of algorithms to buy or sell equity shares, exchange-traded funds or bonds. For those familiar with finance, you could explore the technology option immediately if you are eligible. Using technology to execute trades makes more sense as it eliminates instances of human bias and behaviour. The software executes transactions when prices are according to parameters fed and do not procrastinate like humans. For example, if you create a strategy to sell after your investment doubles, your algorithm will ensure you sell the security when the target is met. However, if you manage it yourself, you may worry about the future profit you could lose if the stock continues to rally and not sell. With volatility in the stock market, you could lose an opportunity to make money if the security price falls.

Banks' profits spike in first 9 mths of 2024

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

BANKS have raked in as much as ₹2.7 lakh crore in net income in the first nine months of 2024. Going by all indications, public sector lenders are set to overtake their private sector peers in the profitability sweepstake this year.

Of the system wide profit of ₹2.7 lakh crore, ₹1 lakh crore came from the January-March quarter of the year and the rest in the next two quarters. Of this, public sector banks raked in close to ₹46,000 crore in the March quarter and ₹85,520 crore in second and third quarters. Private sector banks have made almost ₹44,000 crore in the March quarter and ₹82,172 crore in the next two quarters by the top seven (HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, IndusInd Bank, Federal Bank and Yes Bank) of them alone. As against this, in the entire fiscal 2024, they had earned ₹3.12 lakh crore—₹1.66 lakh crore by private sector banks and ₹1.46 lakh crore by their public sector peers. While till last year private bankers topped the profitability chart, going by all indications, the trend is set to reverse this fiscal—thanks to the continuing stellar show by the nation's largest lender State Bank of India this fiscal.

Of the system-wide profit of ₹1.31 lakh crore in the first nine months of the year by the state-run banks, SBI alone booked ₹56,064 crore in the first three quarters of the year. In the entire fiscal 2024, its net income was ₹61,076 crore.

During this reporting period, the second largest lender HDFC Bank earned ₹49,507 crore and the third largest ICICI Bank raked in ₹ 33,512 crore, which means just three lenders contributed almost 52% or ₹1.4 lakh crore of the industry profit. This is because, as against the past, this year private banks are facing a lot of headwinds on asset side, especially from their unsecured books led by credit cards and personal loans. Most of the pain in the unsecured books is with the private sector lenders and not the public sector banks. The rising delinquency in the credit card space—which has risen by 110 bps to 7.6% till the June quarter of this fiscal and the same is set to spike considerably.

On the back of record write-offs through the insolvency route—as much as ₹12 lakh crore in the past one decade, of which as much as ₹9.9 lakh crore in the past five years alone—banks have been able to clean their books. But the irony is that average recovery from these write-offs or bad loan sales through the IBC route, has only been around 24% so far, which means banks lost more than three quarters of the public money to defaulting corporate borrowers. Of the total, banks write off ₹1.7 lakh crore in FY24 (consolidated data are not available yet for the current year), ₹2.8 lakh crore in FY23, ₹1.75 lakh crore in FY22, ₹2.02 lakh crore in FY21 and ₹2.34 lakh crore in FY20.

SC judgment nullified; GST Council fixes Safari Retreats 'error' retrospectively

DIPAK MONDAL @ New Delhi

THE government has 'nullified' the Supreme Court order in the Safari Retreats case that allowed commercial real estate companies to claim input tax credit (ITC) on construction costs for their rental buildings.

The GST Council in its 55th meeting in Jaisalmer has proposed to retrospectively amend the GST law to restrict input tax credit on construction services. The amendment necessarily overturns the judgment of the Supreme Court.

The Council has recommended amending section 17(5)(d) of CGST Act, 2017, to replace the phrase "plant or machinery" with "plant and machinery", retrospectively, with effect from 1 July 2017. Speaking with the media after the Council meeting, CBIC chairman said that the expression "plant or machinery" used in the said section of the GST Act was a drafting error, and that the proposed amendment seeks to correct the error. Safari Retreats case deals with the eligibility of ITC for immovable property, particularly commercial properties like shopping malls meant for leasing/renting. Section 17(5)(d) of the CGST Act prohibits real estate companies from claiming ITC on the GST paid for goods and services used in constructing properties meant for their own purpose even if the same was rented out.

"The amendment will have a huge impact on the assesses who were benefitted from the said decision," says Shivam Mehta, Executive Partner, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys.

"Safari Retreats' decision was hailed due to the beneficial broader interpretation of plant and machinery by introducing the functionality test. Industry cheer basis the Supreme Court decision in safari retreats is short lived," says Saloni Roy, Partner, Deloitte India.

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
SAMAGRA SHIKSHA

Request for Bids are invited through e-procurement platform for procurement and supply of lab equipment : 307 Biology Labs, 323 Chemistry Labs, 521 Physics Labs, 339 Science Lab Phase-1, 135 Science Lab Phase-2, 222 STEM Laboratory, 424 Physics Lab Equipment with Furniture, 820 Science Kits, 820 Maths Kits, 30 Inter Biology, 30 Inter Chemistry, 30 Inter Physics for PMSHRI schools in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

RFP downloading starts from : 24.12.2024 @ 05.00 PM.
Last date for receipt for RFB : 07.01.2025 @ 05.00 PM.

Note: Further details can be viewed at **https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in** or contact : **+91 98485 59242**

Sd/- B.Srinivasa Rao, I.A.S.,
State Project Director, Samagra Shiksha

DIPR No.3404PP/CL/ADVT/1/1/2021-22, Dt.20/12/2024

KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT STOCK (SECURITIES)

Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru

No: FD 01 BMB 2024 **Dated: 19.12.2024**

NOTICE

1. Aggregate Amount : Total Rs.4000 crore (Rs.2000 crore-16 Year Tenure and Rs,2000 crore-Re-issue)
2. Method of Issue : By auction, through PDO, RBI, Mumbai (Fort)
3. Date of auction : December 24, 2024

Government of Karnataka invites subscription to the above securities. Copies of the Notification and Application forms may be obtained from PDO, RBI, Bangalore. Non-competitive bidding facility has been introduced by RBI to encourage participation of retail investors. The Government stock up to 10% of the notified amount of the sale will be allotted to eligible individuals and institutions. Sample Tender Forms and the revised scheme of Non-competitive bidding facility is available on the website **www.rbi.org.in.**

Sd/- Dr. M.T. Reju,
Secretary to Govt.,(Expenditure)
Finance Department

DIPR/CP/3866/Zen/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER.
KANUPUR IRRIGATION PROJECT
AT/PO- BASUDEVPUR, DIST-KEONJHAR, ODISHA

A-768 PIN-758047, e-mail: ccekipbpur@gmail.com

"e" - PROCUREMENT NOTICE

Bid Identification No . CCE, KIP (KRC&BD)-03 /2024-25

(Pertaining to Kanpur Rehabilitation Camps & Building Division, Basudevpur)

1	Name of the Work	As per Detailed Tender Call Notice
2	Total No. of Package	02 (Two Nos. of individual Work)
3	Estimated cost	From 475.23 Lakh to 674.06 Lakh
4	Period of completion	15 (Fifteen) Calendar Months including rainy season.
5	Class of Contractor	"A" and "Special" Class Contractor
6	Date & time of availability of bid document in the portal	Dt.23 .12.2024 from 10.00 Hours to Dt.06.01 .2025 up to 17.00 Hours.
7	Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal	06.01.2025 up to 17.00 Hours.
8	Date & Time of opening of tender (Technical Bid)	07.01.2025 at 11.00 Hours.
9	Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	Er. Prasad Ranjan Panda, Chief Construction Engineer, Kanupur Irrigation Project At/PO- Basudevpur, Dist- Keonjhar. Odisha-758047

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal "https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in"

Sd/- (Er. Prasad Ranjan Panda)
Chief Construction Engineer,
Kanupur Irrigation Project,
Basudevpur, Keonjhar, Odisha.

OIPR- 32012/11/0004/2425

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER
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eMail : se_nerwkjr@rediffmail.com

eProcurement Notice for Road Works under MMSY -TRIP

Bid Identification No. NCB-21 / RWCKJR / 2024-25

O-926 **No. 3786 /Date: 18.12.2024 /**

1. Name of the work :- **Construction and Maintenance of roads under MMSY-TRIP in the District of Keonjhar.**
2. No. of work :- **05 (Five) Nos.**
3. Estimated Cost :- As per Annexure in NIT.
4. Class of contractor (Eligible) :- As per Annexure in NIT.
5. Period of completion :- As per Annexure in NIT.
6. Other details :-

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of tender On-line for bidding		Last Date & Time of seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of Tender in O/O C.C.E.R.W. Circle, Keonjhar	
		From	To		Technical Bid	Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Keonjhar	NCB-21/ RWCKJR/ 2024-25	Dt.27.12.24 at 11.00 A.M.	Dt.10.01.25 upto 5.00 P.M.	Dt.09.01.25 up to 5.00 P.M.	Dt.13.01.25 at 11.00 A.M.	Will be intimated later

• **Further details can be seen from the website: www.tendersorissa.gov.in**

OIPR- 25177/11/0027/2425 **Sd/- Chief Construction Engineer, R.W. Circle, Keonjhar**

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

LIC HFL LIC HOUSING FINANCE LTD

1st Floor, Jeevan Managal Building, Hayes Road, Bengaluru -560025. Ph.: 080-43003651

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Office of the M/S, LIC Housing Finance Limited the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of security Interest(enforcement) Rule 2002 issued demand notice on below mentioned date calling upon the borrower/guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act with rule 9 of the said rules on below mentioned date.

The Borrower and the public in general are here by \cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with property will be subject to the charge of M/s. LIC Housing Finance Limited for an amount notice mentioned below and interest thereon,

The Borrower attention is invited to provisions of section 13(8) of the said ACT, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower, Loan No & Possession Taken Date	Demand Notice Date	Notice Amount	Description of the Property
Mr. Anupam Kapoor Loan A/c No. 411900012293 Symbolic taken on 19/12/2024	20/03/2024	Rs. 9122661.00	All that piece and parcel of an undeveloped residential converted Land bearing Survey No.61/2, compositely measuring 0-27.10 guntas, (Item No.1 to 6) Vajrahalli Village, Utarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, (converted for non-agricultural use vide Official Memorandum dtd.10.07.2002, bearing Ref.No.BDS/ALN/SR.S/62/2002-03 issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore) presently within the revenue Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike, having BBMP Khata No.671/61/2, compositely bounded on the:East by: Kanakapura Road,West by: Property bearing Survey No.63/4,North by: Property bearing Sy.No.61/1,South by: Portion of the Property bearing Sy.No.61/2. SCHEDULE – B : (Property hereby agreed to be sold to the Purchaser) : An undivided 2.00 % share, right, title and interest in the Schedule – A Property i.e., 540 Sq.ft.. SCHEDULE – C (Description of the Apartment agreed to be sold to the Purchaser corresponding to the acquisition of Schedule B Property) : A 3 Bedroom apartment, Flat No.D103/1st Floor in the Apartment known as "RAINBOW KISHORE GLENDALE APARTMENT" constructed in the Schedule A Property with a super built-up area of 1487 Sft with vitrified tiles. With proportionate share in common areas and club house with Closed Car Park (1 –no) parking space in the basement.

Place: Bangalore
Date : 23.12.2024

Sd/- Authorized Officer
LIC Housing Finance Limited

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PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY

NOTICE is hereby given that **M/S Amigo Properties India LLP** is willing to sell the schedule property in favour of my Client **Ms. Hemalatha. K** free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the below mentioned his Counsel Mr. RADESH.K, Office at Third Floor, Above Favara Car World, SMN Complex, Whitefield Main Road, Thubarahalli, Bangalore. within 7 days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

SCHEDULE:

All that piece and parcel of the Residential 3BHK Apartment bearing Flat No: 312 in Block-B on Third Floor, measuring 1911 Square Feet of super built up area along with Two covered car parking space and 478 Square Feet of Undivided share in the Project known as "AMIGO AMPARO", constructed on the Property bearing (Old Sy No: 75/3A-1) New Sy No: 75/17, BBMP Khata No: 75/17, PID No: 2119/75-17, measuring 2 Acres 4 Guntas (Out of 3 Guntas Kharab Land), Situated at Chokkanahalli Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk.

Contact : **Mr. RADESH,** BE, LL.B, LL.M
Director- MKM Legal Solutions Pvt Ltd.
e-mail id: radesh@mkmlegalsolutions.com
Contact No: +91 9108104705

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that our clients, **(1) Smt. Palaniammal**, W/o. Late Palaniyappan, aged about 86 years, Aadhar No. 3843 8269 0760, Residing at No.205, 2nd Floor, Rajbhavan Apartments, Murgan Koil Street, Selam, Tamilnadu- 636016. **(2) Sri. Venkatachalam.P,** S/o. Late Palaniyappan, aged about 68 years, Aadhar No. 6788 0895 8571, Residing at No. 322/67A1, NCP Nilayam, By-Pass Road, Harur, Dharmapuri, Tamilnadu-636903. **(3) Sri. Rajamani,** S/o. Late Palaniyappan, aged about 63 years, Aadhar No. 3397 2388 0772, Residing at No. 10- 11, Seethapathy Agrahara, New Targupet. Bengaluru-560002. **(4) Sri. Murugesan Palaniyappan,** aged about 51 years, Aadhar No. 2445 4602 2798, S/o Late Palaniyappan, Residing at No.205, 2nd Floor, Rajbhavan Apartments, Murgan Koil Street, Selam, Tamil nadu-636016 have revoked the Registered General Power of Attorney dated 03-06-2024 (Registered as Document No. ABL-4-00084-2024-25), executed in favor of **(1) Mr. S.Y. Ramesh,** aged about 54 years, S/o Late Yellappa, Aadhar No. 6274 5468 2522, PAN No. ADAPR0334H and (2) Mrs. Netravathi.S. aged about 29 years, D/o Late Shivanna, Aadhar No. 3853 3277 0674, PAN No. ALOPN3877D, both are residing at No.112, 1st Floor, 3rd Main Road, Sri Sai Residential Layout, Singena Agrahara Main Road, Bangalore 560099 in connection to Residentially Converted Land bearing Sy.No.294, measuring 3 Acres 26 Guntas(Three Acres and Twenty-Six Guntas), Conversion No. ALN (AA) SR 127/23-24 dated 06-01-2024, situated at Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, including all sites carved out thereon. (More fully described in the schedule hereunder)

The above-mentioned individuals have been found to be acting against the interests of our clients, misusing the authority granted under the said GPA, and engaging in unauthorized dealings concerning the schedule property. The general public is hereby cautioned "NOT TO DEAL" with the aforementioned individuals, **Mr. S.Y. Ramesh and Mrs. Netravathi S.,** in any manner concerning the above-described property. Any transaction, agreement, or dealing with these individuals will be deemed "illegal, unauthorized, and void", and our clients will not be held responsible for any consequences arising from such dealings. Our clients reserve their right to initiate appropriate legal proceedings, both civil and criminal, against anyone found dealing with the said individuals in relation to the property. This notice is issued in the interest of the general public to safeguard the legal rights and interests of our clients. If anybody comes across such malicious transaction/s, please bring it to our notice (addressed below) within seven days.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All piece and parcel of immovable property being a Residentially Converted Land bearing Sy.No.294, Measuring 3 Acres 26 Guntas, (Three Acres and Twenty-Six Guntas), Conversion No. ALN (AA) SR 127/23-24 dt. 06-01-2024. Situated at Attibele Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, bounded as

East by: Property belonged to Anjaneya Temple Inamathi Land
West by: Property belonged to Patalamma Temple Inamathi Land
North by: Property belonged to Lakshmi Narasima
South by: Property belonged to the children of Chikkathimmanna

Contact Address
VK & Co, Advocates
No: 2, Old No: 3852/A, 4th Cross, B-Block,
2nd Main, Subramanyanagara, Bangalore -560021
Mobile No: 9448759314

CITY UNION BANK LIMITED

CUB TRUST AND EXCELLENCE SINCE 1904

Credit Recovery and Management Department
Administrative Office : No. 24-B, Gandhi Nagar, Kumbakonam - 612 001. **E-Mail id :** crmd@cityunionbank.in, **Ph :** 0435-2432322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746

RE-TENDER-CUM-AUCTION SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002

The following property/ies mortgaged to **City Union Bank Limited** will be sold in Re-Tender-cum-Public Auction by the Authorised Officer of the Bank, under Rule 8 (6) & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, under the SARFAESI Act, 2002, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.4,21,08,500/- (Rupees Four Crore Twenty One Lakh Eight Thousand and Five Hundred only)** as on **15-12-2024** together with further interest to be charged from **16-12-2024** onwards and other expenses, any other dues to the Bank by the borrowers / guarantors **No.1) M/s. Sri Giri Travels Pvt. Ltd., No.918, 26th Main Road, 9th Cross, HSR Layout, 1st Sector, Bangalore - 560102. No.2) M/s. Nithin and Co., No.100/1, 100/2, Outer Ring Road, Hebbal Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore - 560024. No.3) Mr. N.P. Mahesh, S/o. Parameshwarappa, No.169, 1st Floor, 28th Main, 6th Cross, HSR Layout, Sector-1, Bangalore - 560102. Also at Mr. N.P. Mahesh, S/o. Parameshwarappa, No.122, Green Vista Layout, BDA Khatha No. 122 Chikkabelandur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore - 560087. No.4) Mrs. R. Dakshayini, W/o. N.P. Mahesh, No.169, 1st Floor, 28th Main, 6th Cross, HSR Layout, Sector-1, Bangalore - 560102. Also at Mrs. R. Dakshayini, W/o. N.P. Mahesh, No.122, Green Vista Layout, BDA Khatha No.122 Chikkabelandur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore - 560087. No.5) Mr. K.S. Manjunath, S/o. K. Sreedharan, No.508, 12th Cross, 2nd Main, Telecom Layout, Srirampura Village, Bangalore North, Jakkur, Bangalore - 560064. No.6) Mr. K. Sreedharan, S/o. Late P. Kunhambu, No.508, 12th Cross, 2nd Main, Telecom Layout, Srirampura Village, Bangalore North, Jakkur, Bangalore - 560064.**

Note : That Our **203-Bengaluru-Banashankari Branch** has also extended Financial Assistance (CUB OSL SPECIAL-BR:50181208006344S) dated **21-04-2020** requested by No.2 of you represented by No.3 of you as Proprietor for which No.4 of you stood as Co-obligant and Nos.3 to 6 of you stood as Guarantors for the facility for a total amount of **Rs. 15,00,000/-** at a ROI of **14%.** The same has been also classified as **NPA** on **05-12-2020** and the outstanding balance as on **15-12-2024** is **Rs.10,86,878/- (Rupees Ten Lakh Eighty Six Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Eight only)** plus further interest and penal interest of **2.00%** with monthly rests to be charged from **16-12-2024** till the date of realization.

Immovable Property Mortgaged to our Bank

Schedule - C : (Property Owned by Mrs. R. Dakshayini, W/o. N.P. Mahesh)

All that Piece and Parcel of the property bearing No.113, BDA Khatha No.113 carved out of erstwhile converted Sy. No.22, 20/1, 20/2, 20/3, (Converted vide the order of the Official Memoranda dated 01/10/2008 bearing No.ALN.(EVH)SR.116/2008-09 and Memorandum dated 06.05.2009 bearing No.ALN.EVH.SR.29/2007-08, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), situated at Chikkabellandur Village, Varthur Hobli, earlier Bangalore south Taluk, now Bangalore East Taluk, in the layout known as Green Vista, with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface, Measuring East to West (40+40)/2 feet, North to South : (66.8+66.8)/2 feet in all measuring 2,667 Sq.feet together with building constructed thereon and Bounded on the: East by : Road, West by : Layout Compound Wall, North by : Site No.114, South by : Site No.112.

Reserve Price: Rs.1,49,00,000/-
(Rupees One Crore Forty Nine Lakh only)

RE-AUCTION DETAILS

Date of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale	Venue
10-01-2025	City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru - Banashankari Branch, 784, II Phase, 7th Block, Banashankari, III Stage, 100 Ft. Road, Bengaluru - 560085. Telephone No.080-26423599, Cell No. 9379877590.

Terms and Conditions of Re-Tender-cum-Auction Sale :

(1) The intending bidders should be present in person for the auction and participate personally and give a declaration in writing to the effect that he/she is bidding for himself / herself. **(2)** The intending bidders may obtain the Tender Forms from **The Manager, City Union Bank Limited, Bengaluru-Banashankari Branch, 784, II Phase, 7th Block, Banashankari, III Stage, 100 Ft. Road, Bengaluru - 560085.** **(3)** The intending bidders should submit their bids only in the Tender Form prescribed in sealed envelopes addressed to **The Authorised Officer, City Union Bank Ltd.,** together with a Pay Order / Demand Draft for an EMD of **10%** of the Reserve Price, drawn in favour of **"City Union Bank Ltd.", on or before 12.00 Noon** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. **(4)** For inspection of the property and other particulars, the intending purchaser may contact **Telephone No.080-26423599, Cell No. 9379877590.** **(5)** The property/ies are sold on "As-is-where-is", "As-is-what-is" and "whatever-there is" basis. **(6)** The sealed tenders will be opened in the presence of the intending bidders at **01.00 p.m.** on the date of Tender-cum-Auction Sale hereby notified. Though in general the sale will be by way of closed tenders, the Authorised Officer may, at his sole discretion, conduct an Open Auction among the interested bidders who desire to quote a bid higher than the one received in the closed tender process, and in such an event, the sale shall be conferred on the person making highest bid. The sale, however, is subject to confirmation of City Union Bank Limited. **(7)** The successful bidder shall have to pay **25% (inclusive of EMD paid)** of the sale amount **immediately** on completion of sale and the balance amount of **75%** within **15 days** from the date of confirmation of sale, failing which the initial deposit of **25%** shall be forfeited. **(8)** The Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful purchaser only after receipt of the entire sale consideration within the time limit stipulated herein. **(9)** The successful purchaser shall bear the charges/fees payable for conveyance, such as stamp duty, registration fee etc., as applicable under law. **(10)** The successful bidder should pay the statutory dues (lawful house tax, electricity charges and other dues), TDS, GST if any, due to Government, Government Undertaking and local bodies. **(11)** The Authorised Officer shall have all the powers to accept or reject the bids or postpone or cancel the sale without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Place : Kumbakonam, Date : 21-12-2024 **Authorised Officer**

Regd. Office : 149, T.S.R. (Big) Street, Kumbakonam, Thanjavur District, Tamil Nadu - 612 001, **CIN -** L65110TN1904PLC001287, **Telephone No.** 0435-2402322, **Fax :** 0435-2431746, **Website :** www.cityunionbank.com

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UAE to host India matches in 2025 Champions Trophy

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has chosen the United Arab Emirates as the neutral venue for the 2025 Champions Trophy. India will play their matches at the neutral venue. The PCB has formally informed the ICC about the decision, PCB spokesperson Amir Mir said. Lahore will host the final if India do not qualify for the summit clash.

Words of wisdom for Yashasvi

During a net session ahead of the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne, Kohli, Rahul and coach Gambhir give pep talks to Mumbai batter, who has struggled to spend time in the middle

KL RAHUL was in the middle of the second nets at the Melbourne Cricket Ground with Yashasvi Jaiswal on Sunday morning. He was taking turns with the opening partner and on one such occasion, he stopped the youngster and had a long chat with Jaiswal.

The Mumbai batter, on his first trip Down Under, has blown hot and cold so far. He, although scored a century in the second innings of Perth, since then has struggled to spend time in the middle. Here, at the MCG, on what Akash Deep described as "low and slow surfaces" Jaiswal was facing India's first-choice pace attack — Jasprit Bumrah, Akash Deep, Nitish Reddy and Mohammed Siraj. And clearly, Jaiswal was all over the place.

The 22-year-old switched between batting inside and outside the crease while not getting in line with the delivery to play with a straight bat. Oftentimes, he would go back and forth on whether to get on the front foot and ended up playing length deliveries awkwardly. Rahul, in the middle of nets before going for one of his many stints, would pull up the youngster and have a long chat with him. Watching from the outside, it seemed like he was talking about how the bat was coming down and where he was meeting the ball.

Jaiswal, especially, while facing Bumrah was getting hurried by the senior pacer as he was non-committal on how to play the delivery. However, to others, he confidently batted outside the crease while getting on front foot with ease. Again and again, he was tentatively pushing away from the body while facing length deliveries from Bumrah. This time, Kohli, who was facing the throwdowns in the adjacent net, pulled Jaiswal aside and had a talk with the youngster.

From the time he made his debut, whether it is Rohit Sharma or Kohli or Rahul, the seniors have been fiercely protective of Jaiswal, not just because of the journey he has had but also because of what he is capable of. In his short career so far, Jaiswal has shown enough proof to make one understand why. "I won't say anything on Jaiswal. Everyone is talking about him. Let him play. He is playing well, it's good for us and he is in good form. I am not going to say much more than that. Itna bas hai abhi ke liye (this is enough for now)," Sharma had said earlier this year during the home Test series against England.

Here in Australia, they were doing the same, for they knew what Jaiswal brings to the table and why he is important for the team. And it is not just the seniors, when he got to the other end, head coach Gautam Gambhir was on his ears as well. In the stint after, Jaiswal started leaving the balls more regularly.

It seemed like he was consciously trying to trust the bounce and leave balls off length while meeting the ones he have to play under the eye. Almost after every delivery, he was even shadow practicing the same. It was when he moved to the nets where spinners bowled, Jaiswal unleashed himself to play some shots.

Jaiswal's show with willow

Before BGT		In BGT
14	M	3
1407	R	193
214 n.o	HS	161
56.28	Avg	38.60
3	100	1
8	50	0

STINT IN THE MIDDLE

Balls faced before BGT	Balls faced during BGT
2006 in 26 innings (approx 77 balls/innings)	345 in 6 innings of which 297 he faced in second innings of Perth scoring 161

Injury scare for Rohit

EVEN as Jaiswal, Shubman Gill and others tried to work on things they had to, Sharma took a blow on his left knee while facing throwdowns. The ball didn't bounce as much as he expected and hit him in the knee. In pain, Sharma walked out of the nets. For the next half or so, he could be seen resting with a wrapped knee and an ice pack over it. A while later, he could be seen walking normally.

Similarly, Akash Deep also got hit on the nets, but the pacer cleared the air saying that there was nothing to worry about his or Sharma's blow. "Such blows are common when you play cricket," Akash Deep told the reporters. "I think this (practice) wicket was for white ball which is why the ball kept low at times. But these blows are common in training. There are no major concerns because of that."

The Indian team has had a couple of days of intense training ahead of the Boxing Day Test and will have a rest day on Monday. They, meanwhile, have another training session two days out but it would be an optional one. The day before the match, which is Christmas Day, is in all likelihood another rest day before India get on the field in front of a packed MCG crowd on December 26.

As things stand, the surface seems to have a greenish tinge with recent records suggesting that there will be a lot of assistance for pacers. However, one will have to wait and see how the pitch looks on December 25 to understand what to expect over the last five days of cricket in 2024.

The making of fast bowler Boland: Cult hero of MCG

GOMESH S @Melbourne

ON a hot Saturday afternoon at the AH Butler Oval, Frankston Peninsula Cricket Club was playing against Camberwell Magpies Cricket Club in the local game on the outskirts of Melbourne. On the field, things were not going well for FPCC. Even as the current coach Peter Marshall sat with the team in the dugout, keeping an eye on the action, watching along the boundary ropes was former coach David McClean and his wife. David hadn't been at the ground for a while and his wife wanted to see some of the renovated facilities at the venue. As one reaches the Oval after a 40-minute cab ride from the Melbourne Cricket Ground, saying one particular name can change the mood of any person present— Scott Boland. Instantly there was a wide smile and one could sense the happiness and the feeling of pride that comes along. After all, this is the ground where the pacer — who made his debut at the MCG with a record figure of 6/7 against England three years ago— arrived as a teenager from Parkdale almost 20 years ago.

"He was a very likable guy even then," recalls David sitting in the viewing area of FPCC. "He struggled with his weight. But when we got Nick Jewell here as coach, he noticed Scotty. We used to push him pretty hard to get the best out of himself," he added.

In the winter of 2009, Boland went to Nick and asked if he could put in some work through the winter. Nick, in turn, asked Boland to shed some weight and then would get the teenager admitted into a state programme. "We got him to bowl to one of the touring sides in the summer. I can't remember who it was. And Greg Shippard, who was the Victorian coach at the

time, noticed him there and took a bit of an interest. It was from there his career started to take off," David mentioned.

Even then, Boland was not one of the prodigal talents who was fast-tracked. He had to work hard at every step, every level, bide his time to make his way up. Perhaps a little more than others. Boland first made the Victoria second XI, then eventually made his first-class debut in 2011 for Victoria. From there on, it was one long grind that lasted for a decade. Boland, however, wasn't thinking about all this. He never thought he would get this far in the first place. They used to call him 'Barrel' when Boland joined FPCC as a batting all-rounder. David, and other coaches at the FPCC, 'chiseled' him into the bowler he is. From his arm action to run-up to release, they worked on everything and due credit to Boland, who put in the work no questions asked.

From his early days, it was drilled into him not to chase pace but to pursue accuracy like Glenn McGrath. "We had another guy that played here - Darren Groves. Boland grew up watching Darren bowl out here. He used to get all the best players out in the competition - Brad Hodge, David Hussey, Cameron White. I think Scotty learned a lot from Darren. Week in, week out, bowling with him, watching the same sort of speed, maybe around 130KPH. Darren used to just get him out all the time. I think Scotty sort of realised then, 'Gee, I can do that. That's what I'm going to do'. He still hits the deck pretty hard. I think the longevity of him has not been trying to bowl that fast all the time. He just hits that area," explains David, before adding, "He used to be a little bit erratic so we sort of got his hands in a lot closer to his body. You hear him (on the follow-through when his hand hits the thigh). He still does it. He used to have bruises on his leg from whacking."

The moment one hears the 'thud' while Boland is bowling, you would know he was switched on. It is his relentless work ethic and accuracy that brought him a knack of getting wickets, that too, in clusters. And doing that for years eventually brought him the reward of the Baggy Green in 2021. Boland became only the fourth indigenous cricketer to play Test cricket for Australia. David's son Michael McClean- one of the best friends of Boland, was there to witness it. "That was pretty phenomenal," says Michael.

Even after such a debut, Boland wasn't necessarily starting every Test since. In fact, he went 18 months without playing Test cricket between the 2023 Ashes and the Adelaide Test against India. That opportunity came at the cost of Hazlewood's injury. Boland made the most of it, taking another five-wicket haul. However, Hazlewood came back for Brisbane before getting ruled out of the series. Three years since his Test debut, Boland is all set to walk out on his home ground. Much like everyone at the FPCC, Michael is thrilled for his friend.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Root returns to ODI squad for India tour, CT

LONDON: Veteran batter Joe Root's return to 50-over format after more than a year headlined England's squad announcement for the ODI tour to India and the ICC Champions Trophy. Root's previous assignment in the format was the World Cup held in India in 2023. Ben Stokes was not considered for selection.

India capture Women's U19 T20 Asia Cup

KUALA LUMPUR: Opener G Trisha made a doughty fifty before the left-arm troika of Ayushi Shukla, Sonam Yadav and Parunika Sisodia spun web around Bangladesh batters as Niki Prasad-led India scored a 41-run win to emerge champions in the inaugural Women's T20 U19 Asia Cup on Sunday.

Chinese Zheng pulls out of United Cup

SYDNEY: Chinese World No 5 Zheng Qinwen pulled out of the season-opening United Cup on Sunday citing the need for more rest, but plans to be at the Australian Open. The 22-year-old is coming off a breakthrough season that reaped three singles titles, with the highlight winning Olympic gold in Paris.

Kerala Blasters' Noah Sadaoui celebrates after scoring the second goal | A SANESH

Three-star Blasters down Mohammedan

ENS/AGENCIES @ Kochi

KERALA Blasters FC players delighted the home crowd to record a dominant 3-0 win over Mohammedan SC in the Indian Super League at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Sunday. In the process, the home team completed a league double over Mohammedan this season.

A stellar second-half performance from the Blasters saw the likes of Noah Sadaoui and Alexandre Coeff get on the scoresheet along with an own goal from Bhaskar Roy.

The first half hour of the game saw both defences holding their shape and thwarting the opposition's attack. However, the hosts had a few half chances with Noah orchestrating most of the moves. He combined with Kwame Peprah brilliantly before the drinks break but the Ghanaian's header was too tame to trouble Roy in goal. The final quarter of the first half saw Kerala dominate possession, whereas Mohammedan were happy to sit back and hold their lines.

Kerala continued their dominance in the second half with Milos Drincic coming very close to breaking the deadlock from a corner delivered by Adrian Luna.

Kerala finally broke the deadlock in the 62nd minute courtesy of an error from Roy. The Mohammedan custodian misjudged a corner kick from Luna as he tried to punch it out instead of gathering the ball. He deflected the ball into his own net. The hosts doubled their lead in the 80th minute when Korou found Noah in the penalty area after Luna's corner kick was cleared away. The Moroccan was in acres of space to direct a thunderous header into the bottom right corner. Substitute Coeff scored the third in the 90th minute.

This was a much-needed victory for the home side, who had endured three consecutive losses before this match. With three points earned, Kerala moved to 10th spot with 14 points. Mohammedan are last with five points.

Mandhana climbs another mountain as India beat West Indies

KALYANI MANGALE @ Chennai

THERE is a famous bridge that connects the city of Sangli with the rest of the world on the river Krishna called Irwin Bridge. Built in the early 1900s, named after then-Viceroy Lord Irwin became a reality after the devastating floods of 1914 and 1916. It is also said that the former Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Late Vasantdada Patil who led the freedom struggle in Western Maharashtra himself jumped into river from Irwin Bridge when he was chased by the British army. The red-coloured stone bridge, which is close to completing 100 years, has seen multiple floods since its completion. Ask anyone from Sangli and they will tell you how special that bridge is.

Smriti Mandhana comes from the same place as the iconic bridge. She might not have seen as much history unfold as the bridge has, but she sure has stood up for her team time and again. And the calendar year of 2024, especially in ODIs has proved it again. On Sunday, batting at the newly built Kotambi Stadium in Vadodara, she slammed 91 runs and went past South Africa captain Laura Wolvaardt to score the most runs in the calendar year as India defeated West Indies in the first ODI by a whopping 211 runs to prove the point once again.

Mandhana left 2023 on a high with 112 runs across two innings as India defeated Australia in a one-off Test match at the Wankhede Stadium. By her standard, it was a lean year as she scored 140 runs in four ODIs and 433 in 18 T20Is. The left-hander finished behind Jemimah Rodrigues with 573 runs across both white-ball formats. And the way she started against Australia in the white-ball series at the start of the year did not specifically indicate that there will be any change in the way she has batted. Despite bravely facing Ashleigh Gardner and Darcie Brown, two Australians who have frequently troubled her, Mandhana's aggression against Alana King did not go well. In the final ODI of the series, in the chase of 339, she again fell early.

India vice-captain Smriti Mandhana scored a 102-ball 91 in the first ODI | SPORTZPICS

A break in the international calendar following that series and a successful season at the Women's Premier League did change a few things for India's vice-captain. Mandhana also credited the dedicated batter's camp at the National Cricket Academy before the home series against South Africa for unlocking her potential.

While there are two more matches to go in the series. It remains to be seen what more Mandhana can take out of her purple patch.

Brief scores: India 314/9 in 50 ovs (Mandhana 91; James 5/45) **bt** West Indies 103/10 in 26.2 ovs (Fletcher 24; Thakur 5/29).

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Liverpool extend lead, United lose

AGENCIES @ London

LIVERPOOL FC recorded a thrilling 6-3 victory over Tottenham Hotspur to extend their lead in the Premier League on Sunday. Mohamed Salah and Luis Diaz scored a double each while Dominik Szoboszlai and Alexis Mac Allister netted a goal each for Liverpool, who now have a four-point lead over second-placed Chelsea, who were held 0-0 by Everton earlier in the day. James Maddison, Dejan Kulusevski and Dominic Solanki scored for Tottenham.

Manchester United suffered a 3-0 home defeat to Bournemouth as Ruben Amorim lost for the fourth time in his nine games in charge of the troubled Old Trafford club. Bournemouth took a first half lead through Dean Huijsen before Justin Kluivert and Antoine Semenyo netted after the interval to complete a dismal afternoon for Amorim, who replaced the sacked Erik ten Hag in November. Late on Saturday, Arsenal swept Crystal Palace aside 5-1 to remain in range of title shot.

Liverpool's Luis Diaz rejoices after scoring the sixth goal vs Spurs | AFP

Results: Saturday: Palace 1-5 Arsenal. **Sunday:** Man United 0-3 Bournemouth; Everton 0-0 Chelsea; Fulham 0-0 Southampton; Leicester 0-3 Wolves; Tottenham 3-6 Liverpool.

Atletico beat Barca to go top

BARCELONA: Atletico Madrid came from behind to snatch a last-gasp 2-1 victory over Barcelona and claim leadership of La Liga on Saturday.

Nat'l badminton: Unseeded Adarshini enters semifinals

ENS @ Chennai

TAMIL NADU'S Sathish Kumar K, who's the No 1 seed, and Adarshini Shri NB entered the semifinals of the Senior National Badminton Championships in Bengaluru. Sathish, the winner of Guwahati Masters Super 100 title recently, beat Kaushal Dharmamer of Railways 21-11, 21-12 in the last-eight stage of the men's singles category.

Adarshini, who has punched above her weight in the meet, beat 15th seed Shreya Lele of Gujarat 23-21, 21-12 in the women's singles quarterfinals and will face Devika Sihag in the semifinals on Monday.

"She is mentally tough and has that fighting quality in her. That has been evident in this event so far. It was a bit of a surprise but we're happy for her," said Venkatesh Nallusamy, head coach of Tamil Nadu. With some of the big names in the national circuit participating, this is an encouraging run for someone like Adarshini, who recently joined the Prakash Padukone Badminton Academy. While the TN duo impressed, some of the touted names, including the likes of Anmol Kharb and Aakarshi Kashyap (both in women's singles) bowed out.

UPCOMING EXAMINATIONS

TS TET	UGC-NET 2025	XAT 2025
Date: January 2 to 20, 2025	Date: January 3 to 16, 2025	Date: January 5, 2025

THE NEW SAT
WHAT LIES AHEAD?

As universities evolve and the SAT goes digital, a question looms: What is the future of the SAT? From adaptive AI tools to India-focused initiatives, **Saumya Solanki** and **Varsha Sagi** find out how the SAT is reshaping its role in a global education landscape

IN an evolving educational landscape where many universities are increasingly adopting policies that make tests optional, the SAT continues to hold its ground as a critical tool for students aiming to stand out in competitive admissions.

But with the transition to a new format, the SAT has entered a new era, redefining not just how students prepare but also how they perform.

However, questions remain: What fresh strategies can one employ to excel in a test transforming with time, and what future developments can students expect? In this third and final installment of the SAT series, *EdexLive* spoke to Rushi Sheth, the Vice-President of the College Board's International division, to explore and understand the future of the SAT's shifting terrain.

● With thousands of universities going test-optional, has the SAT become less relevant or more strategic?

For students aiming for competitive programmes or scholarship opportunities, it provides a standardised benchmark that enhances the holistic review process.

Submitting SAT scores can help students stand out by showcasing their academic readiness and reinforcing other elements of their application, such as their Grade Point Average (GPA) and extracurricular achievements. In an increasingly competitive admissions environment, the SAT remains an asset for students to differentiate themselves and highlight their potential in a way that transcends grading systems or school curricula.

● From Artificial Intelligence (AI) tutoring to adaptive practice — how is technology changing the SAT preparation game?

Technology has significantly transformed SAT preparation, particularly with the transition to the digital SAT, which Indian students planning to study abroad should note. The digital SAT, launched via the Bluebook app, has introduced several innovations aimed at making test-taking more streamlined and efficient.

The digital SAT incorporates a section-adaptive model that adjusts question difficulty based on student performance in earlier sections. This adaptive approach personalises the experience, focusing on measuring students' capabilities more efficiently. However, it emphasises the need for strategic preparation, as each question impacts the subsequent ones.

Students can expect shorter reading passages with diverse genres and a streamlined format that promotes critical thinking and adaptability. In the Math section, calculators are allowed throughout, which shifts focus from manual calculations to reasoning and problem-solving skills. To support this transition, College Board offers advanced digital preparation tools.

The Bluebook app provides full-length practice tests that simulate the actual testing environment, helping students become familiar with the new format.

While the digital format enables faster scoring and scheduling flexibility, challenges such as internet access and device compatibility may arise. College Board addresses these through initiatives like the device-lending programme to ensure equal access for all students.

next up

● How has College Board engaged with the Indian education sector, especially in recent times?

Recently, the College Board India Forum 2024, held on October 16, at The Lalit, New Delhi, brought together key decision-makers and thought leaders from South and Central Asia. The event served as a platform for discussions on challenges and opportunities in preparing students for higher education.

Critical topics included the role of assessments, the globalised higher education landscape, the significance of diversity, and the impact of socio-economic factors on education. The India Forum exemplified the College Board's dedication to engaging with the educational community in India.

> **By fostering dialogue, we aim to address the challenges faced by students & educators while identifying ways to empower Indian students**
>
> Rushi Sheth, VP, College Board's International division

Q&A

The SAT's move to a newer platform marks a new chapter in standardised testing. Mahendra Gokaraju, who took the SAT in India before heading to Boston College, Massachusetts, talks to Varsha Sagi about how this change could impact Indian aspirants navigating a pen-and-paper system

AS the SATs embrace modernity, students should brace themselves too.

Could this be a great opportunity for the students? *EdexLive* spoke to Mahendra Gokaraju, a Boston College graduate on an H1B visa as a data scientist, who recalls his experience of taking the SAT in India and shares his thoughts on what the digital shift could mean for the upcoming test-takers.

E-SAT: An Indian perspective

quick recall

● What's your take on the new digitised test?

The digitised test experience is likely to be much more user-friendly and efficient. With features like time tracking and the ability to quickly navigate between incomplete or flagged questions, the digital format eliminates many challenges associated with traditional pen-and-paper tests.

The convenience of clicking through questions and seeing your progress at a glance makes the process smoother and less cumbersome compared to manually flipping pages or erasing answers in a booklet.

● In your personal opinion, do you think the difficulty level of the test will change?

The standard of the test itself is expected to remain consistent, maintaining its rigour regardless of the format. If anything, tests might become even more challenging as educational standards and evaluation methods continue to evolve and improve over time.

● Do you believe that this method would reduce test-taking stress?

Yes, to some extent, I would presume. Perhaps it wouldn't be wrong to assume that the digitised format is typically designed to minimise distractions, allowing test-takers to concentrate better.

Unlike traditional paper-based tests, which I had taken, digital tests could possibly offer a more organised and streamlined experience. Features like automatic saving of answers, clear question layouts, and seamless navigation between sections could contribute to a smoother test-taking process.

● As a student, do you think technical malfunctions could disrupt the test-taking experience?

I would assume malfunctions during well-organised tests are extremely rare, especially when the system is properly managed and tested in advance. Even if a minor issue arises, there is usually immediate support available to address it promptly.

● What's your take on time management when it comes to digital tests?

I think time management is actually likely to be easier with digital tests. The digital format comes equipped with built-in tools like timers and notifications that remind you of the time remaining.

These features could actually help test-takers stay aware of their pace without the distractions of constantly looking at a clock.

● Do you think the digital format could be an extra burden for Indian students due to their lack of exposure to digital tests, given that most tests in India are in the traditional pen-and-paper format?

No, the digital format should not be an additional burden for Indian students. The skills required for navigating a digital test are very basic, involving only familiarity with a keyboard, mouse, or touchscreen — something most students are already comfortable with.

While it's true that many tests in India still follow the pen-and-paper format, the transition to digital tests is manageable and doesn't demand any advanced technical expertise.

Quenching curiosity: Campus visits in American universities

SAT scores can be a stepping stone to your dream college, but a prestigious name and reputation alone may not guarantee that a school is right for you. Hence campus tours are a good way to gain insight into courses, campus culture and history of the school

HEADING FOR A CAMPUS VISIT

HOW IS IT DONE?
- In-person visits with help from admissions office
- Campus tours organised by schools
- Informal visits, or self-guided tours

WHAT DOES THE VISIT ENTAIL?
- Informative sessions with the college's admissions representative and a guided tour of the campus
- Campus tours led by college students with interactive sessions

One can also arrange for

Attending a class • Meeting a professor or an admissions officer • Attending a club meeting or sports practice session • Eating in a dining hall • Spending the night in a dorm

WHAT IF ONE CAN'T MAKE IN-PERSON VISITS?

Check the website if they offer virtual campus tours or events • Check the websites for talks/events for freshers • Speak to students/alumni to get a clearer perspective • Read college newspapers • Check out informative YouTube videos/reels • Consult professors/advisers

The Hotspots!

IN addition to cafeterias and dining halls, open spaces often serve as the backdrop for inspiring ideas and lively discussions. These areas provide a unique environment where students, faculty, and visitors can engage in meaningful conversations, brainstorm, or simply relax while soaking in the surroundings.

Across the United States, several renowned universities boast of iconic outdoor spots that have become hubs for intellectual exchange and social interaction. Here is a collection of these famous hotspots at some of the most prestigious universities in the country.

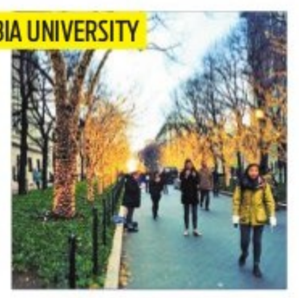
STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Hoover Tower: This iconic landmark, standing at 285 feet tall, offers stunning panoramic views of the campus and the surrounding area. It's a popular spot for students, not only for its views but also as a symbol of the university's history and legacy.

The Main Quad: With its distinctive red-tiled roofs and Spanish-style architecture, is a favourite spot for students to relax, study, or simply socialise. It's also where many of Stanford's major academic buildings are located.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Low Memorial Library: This iconic building, with its grand neoclassical architecture, is not only a symbol of the university but also serves as a popular gathering place and a study spot for many students. Though it's no longer used as a library, it still hosts important events and is centrally located on campus.



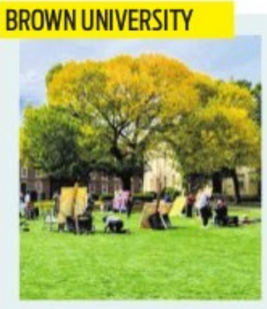
College Walk: The tree-lined pathway runs through the heart of the campus, offering beautiful views of the iconic Low Library and a place to relax or socialise between classes.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Harvard Yard: The central area of the campus. It's the heart of the university and a common meeting spot for students. The Yard is surrounded by iconic buildings including Massachusetts Hall. It also has John Harvard's sculpture, a landmark where students are often spotted taking photos.

Widener Library: One of the largest university libraries in the world, it is a favourite spot for students looking to study, and its grand architecture makes it an iconic symbol of Harvard's academic environment.

BROWN UNIVERSITY



The Main Green: It is a large open space which serves as a central gathering place for students, offering a spot for relaxation, outdoor events, and socialising. It's a place where students often hang out, study, or participate in various activities, especially when the weather is warm.

The Van Wickle Gates: It is often considered a symbol of Brown. These gates are part of the university's tradition, with a ceremonial significance — freshmen walk through them at the start of their academic journey, and seniors leave through them at graduation.

College Hill: The area surrounding the university offers stunning views and is home to many of Brown's historic buildings.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Libe Slope: It is a large grassy area located near Uris and Olin libraries. The slope offers breathtaking views of the Cornell campus, Ithaca, and the surrounding Cayuga Lake. It is a popular spot for students to relax, study, and socialise, especially during the warmer months.

Cornell Botanic Gardens: These beautiful and expansive gardens, trails, and natural areas, are also a favourite destination for visitors and students alike.

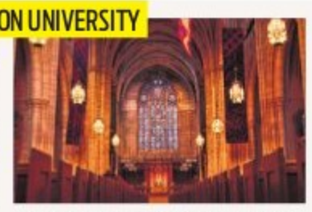
DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

The BEMA: Known as the "Big Empty Meeting Area," the BEMA is an outdoor amphitheater surrounded by towering trees planted from 15,000 seedlings gifted by Judge Joel Parker in 1860. It was once the site of Dartmouth's commencements.

Orozco Mural Room: This room houses The Epic of American Civilization, a stunning mural by Mexican artist José Clemente Orozco. Painted between 1932 and 1934, it narrates the evolution of culture in the US and is a historic landmark.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

The Cannon Green: The Cannon Green is a historic area known for its connection to the university's traditions. The famous Princeton Cannon, a symbol of student life, stands here and is often a part of various campus events and rituals.



University Chapel: Completed in 1928, this Collegiate Gothic masterpiece is among the most beautiful buildings on campus. Seating nearly 2,000 people, it is the third-largest university chapel in the world.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The Infinite Corridor: This iconic corridor connects many of MIT's buildings and is a popular spot for students to socialise as well as study. Its unique atmosphere and intellectual energy make it a symbol of MIT's innovative spirit.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Houston Hall: This iconic building is a social hub, a study space, and a venue for countless events, from concerts to lectures. Its historic architecture and bustling atmosphere make it a beloved spot for students.

Franklin Field: Beyond football games, Franklin Field offers a serene green space for picnics, frisbee, or simply enjoying the outdoors. Its rich history and stunning architecture make it a memorable part of the Penn experience.

The Quadrangle: This beautiful courtyard is a popular spot for students to relax, study, or socialise. Its atmosphere and picturesque setting make it a peaceful escape from the hustle and bustle of campus life.

YALE UNIVERSITY

The Yale Library: This historic library is a haven for scholars and students. Its vast collection, beautiful architecture, and quiet study spaces make it an ideal place to immerse oneself in books and research.

Old Campus: The heart of Yale's campus, Old Campus offers stunning views of Gothic architecture and beautiful green spaces. Its historic buildings, serene courtyards, and vibrant community make it a special place to live and learn.

The Student Center: This bustling hub offers a variety of dining options, event spaces, and recreational facilities. Its diverse offerings and lively atmosphere make it a popular destination for students to relax, socialise & recharge.

— Compiled by Lovely Majumdar & Varsha Sagi

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23•12•2024
MONDAY

DAY'S DIARY

Groundbreaking Invention

On Dec 23, 1947 John Bardeen, Walter Brattain, and William Shockley demonstrated the transistor at Bell Laboratories, New Jersey. The device amplified voices in the earphones that it powered.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

The name transistor, a combination of transfer and resistor, was coined by Bell Labs electrical engineer John Robinson Pierce, who was also a science-fiction author.

CELEBRATED SCIENTISTS

The trio won the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1956 for developing the transistor, which replaced the bulkier and less efficient vacuum tube ushering in the age of microminiature electronics.

LASTING INFLUENCE

Called the most important invention of the 20th century, this invention was used in hearing aids, radios, and IBM computers.

CE's guide to happenings in the city

PG 2

Oomph appeal!

Trading strut for sutra, Bengaluru-origin Lama Aria Drolma, who spent over 20 years of her life walking the runway for top international brands, shares why she renunciated it all to pursue a life of spirituality as a Buddhist nun

It [living in a cloistered monastery] was, of course, very difficult. I was leading such a glamorous life. And here, our rooms were very minimalistic, it was very disciplined, all of us ate the same food – it was a deep contrast

Lama Aria Drolma, model-turned-Buddhist nun

MAHIMA NAGARAJU

FROM the outside, the world of fashion, full of glitz and glam, can seem like a dream come true. For **Lama Aria Drolma**, who walked at Milan, Paris and New York Fashion Weeks, and modelled for luxury fashion brands like Chanel, Giorgio Armani, and Ralph Lauren, this dream was just another day. "I was living in New York and my life was a whirlwind of photo shoots, runway shows, glamorous events, restaurant openings, and meeting beautiful people. I had access to luxury, the latest fashion, and a really amazing lifestyle," she says, adding, "But after some time, you feel that these possessions really don't make you happy."

Now a nun and teacher, Drolma's mindfulness meditation classes were held over the weekend which is what brought her back to Bengaluru. The turning point came in 2008 around the time she came to feel a deep emptiness in her life, a yearning for meaning despite appearing to have it all. The excitement that once filled her began to feel very meaningless and the goals she pursued so relentlessly no longer held that depth of purpose. "I really found myself searching for something more, something real and substantial that would provide an answer to the bigger question – what is the purpose of my life?"

She decided to go all in to find answers, signing up for a three-year-long retreat at a New York Monastery to become an ordained Buddhist nun in 2011. At this intense cloistered practice, she went from a life of materialism to living a minimalist life, cut off from the outside world except through letters written to family and friends. "It was, of course, very difficult. I was leading such a glamorous life. And here, our rooms were very minimalistic, it was very disciplined, all of us ate the same food – it was a deep contrast. But when I embark on a journey, I am the sort of person who takes it head on," she recalls. Now, her life looks drastically different. "I wake up with prayers, with living intentionally, living with a purpose, living with my heart filled with compassion, knowing we are all interconnected, and my thoughts are on how we can benefit the world, even in little ways," she says.

Drolma during her modelling days

Thirteen years after her ordination, Drolma is back in the city she grew up in to share her knowledge of mindfulness meditation, a technique practiced at the monastery. Having taught classes to young people at Harvard Business School, Oxford University, Google headquarters and other prestigious institutions, she's noticed some things that plague all her students. "Many youngsters I teach find their lives to be overwhelming – with stress, anxiety, depression and other things. All of this comes from the mind. Most of us get up in the morning, look through our social media and there itself – it's too much information, people can't process it. I train the mind to live intentionally – to stop, and step back. You don't have to pray if you're not a very spiritual person, but you can set your day intentionally by thinking thoughts of gratitude, creating a positive energy in your mind, and getting up and saying, 'This is going to be the plan for my day'."

GRUB HUB

Aslam Gafoor (@aslamgafoor) is a hospitality professional with experience in business development, sales, and marketing with well-known hotels and food and beverage companies. A few of his passions are travel, food and wine, and he enjoys sharing these experiences as a columnist.

THE QUIZ WILL BE PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY

Send answers to **bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com** with the subject line **'Food quiz'** The correct answers and names of the first three respondents with right answers will be featured in *CE* on Monday. The winner will receive a voucher worth ₹1,500 from Smoor Chocolates(dine-in only)**

THE RIGHT ANSWERS

1) Castagnaccio 2) Stroganina 3) Risalamande

FIRST 3 TO GET IT RIGHT

1) Ruma S 2) Diya U Jain 3) Harish Venkat

CITY READ

Luxury hotel to host festive dinner and brunch

Marriott Hotel, Whitefield is set to host a Christmas eve dinner on December 24 and a festive Christmas brunch on December 25 at their restaurants, Alto Vino and MCafe. On Christmas eve, guests can enjoy a four-course Italian dinner at Alto Vino, complemented by premium wines from the Wine Park collection. The dinner is priced at ₹3,500++ per person, promising a cosy, festive ambience. On Christmas day, the brunch at MCafe will feature an extensive spread of seasonal dishes, indulgent desserts, and beverages such as eggnog and mulled wine. The brunch is priced at ₹2,500++ per person, with an optional beverage package for ₹1,000++. Alongside this will be live music, cheerful decor and fun activities for children, including a visit from Santa. For more details, contact 080-49435000.

Hotel to host Christmas brunch

Hilton Bangalore Embassy Golflinks, Domlur is set to host a festive Christmas brunch at their poolside dining venue, Seta, on December 25 from 12pm to 3pm. The buffet will feature an elaborate spread, including roast turkey, traditional Christmas desserts, pumpkin pie, herb-roasted new potatoes, butter tossed winter vegetables, and curried puffs. Guests can also enjoy signature festive beverages like Smoky Cranberry Whiskey, Irish Cocktail, and Christmas Punch. The buffet is priced at ₹3,000, with optional beverage packages available at ₹1,000 (beer and wine) and ₹1,800 (IMFL). For more information, contact 80503 13003.

XPRESS FOCUS

Internationalisation at REVA University

Expanding Horizons through Global Collaborations

In today's interconnected world, globalisation has become a driving force that impacts all sectors of society, especially higher education. The boundaries that once confined knowledge within geographic regions have now dissolved, making internationalisation a pillar of modern academia. This global shift not only provides opportunities for learning and research but also serves as a bridge for cultural exchange, building a more comprehensive educational experience.

At the heart of this international wave is the REVA International Relations and Research Collaborations Centre (REVA-IRRC), a dynamic hub that strengthens global partnerships. The centre's mission is clear: to connect the dots between academics, research, publications collaborative projects and experts from around the world.

A Platform for Global Growth

REVA University is committed to harnessing the power of internationalisation, offering academic and research partnerships with esteemed institutions across the globe, including the USA, UK, Europe, Australia, Japan, Vietnam, South Korea, Malaysia, Germany, Arabian countries and various other countries. These partnerships open doors for students and faculty to engage in cross-border collaborations, providing them with a holistic view of the global landscape.

The vision behind REVA-IRRC is to create a seamless learning experience that leverages global expertise for local impact. By connecting REVA students with international experts and professors, REVA-IRRC ensures that geographical constraints do not limit education but are instead enriched by the diverse perspectives of a global community.

Whether through international internships, joint research projects, or academic exchanges, REVA-IRRC is dedicated to nurturing a globally aware and competent generation of students.

Core Values and Purpose

At its core, the REVA-IRRC is guided by a set of principles aimed at providing students with a world-class education in collaboration with top-tier universities worldwide. The centre aims to ensure that every student has access to a rich cultural environment, both at REVA and through partner institutions abroad. The goal is simple: make knowledge accessible anytime, anywhere, for students pursuing undergraduate or postgraduate degrees.

REVA University's approach to education is driven by excellence in teaching and research. With an emphasis on a learner-centric model, the university is dedicated to developing a sense of accountability among its community members, encouraging them to embrace challenges brought by globalisation.

The institution's commitment to quality education is evident in its partnerships with globally recognised institutions and the opportunities it offers for student growth on an international scale.

International Internships and Student Community

REVA-IRRC has facilitated numerous international internships, providing students with hands-on global experience. A prime example is the internship programme at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK, where students from Schools of Computing and Information Technology, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering gained valuable industry insights during a month-long stay.

Similarly, students have attended prestigious internships at Ural Federal University in Russia, Aarhus University in Denmark, Athens Information Technology in Greece, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Malaysia, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Pukyong National University, South Korea; Lunghwa University of Science and Technology, Taiwan; James Cook University; EAGLE VIVIA International Academy, Germany among others. These programmes are designed to broaden students' technical expertise and cultural understanding, giving them a competitive edge in their future careers.

REVA-IRRC oversees the REVA International Student Association (RISA), ensuring the well-being and interests of international students. RISA serves as a bridge between students and the university administration, building a supportive environment and offering opportunities for personal and academic growth while promoting cultural integration and a sense of belonging at REVA University.

Global Collaborations

In addition to student opportunities, REVA-IRRC also nurtures academic excellence through 30 visiting professors from several countries, delivering lectures and conducting workshops in fields such as Computer Science, Computing & Information Technology, and more.

The Student Immersion Programme spans countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Germany, and Taiwan, providing exposure to diverse academic and cultural ecosystems.

Faculty members at REVA have also been recognised and engaged in exchange programmes with renowned universities in South Korea, Malaysia, and Africa, enhancing the institution's global academic standing. Through these initiatives, REVA University not only prepares its students for international careers but also positions itself as a hub for global academic excellence.

A Future of Boundless Opportunities

As the world becomes more interconnected, REVA-IRRC remains at the forefront of internationalisation in higher education, continuously seeking out new collaborations and opportunities for students. The centre embodies REVA University's commitment to excellence, global engagement, and the development of students who are prepared to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world.

By offering global exploration opportunities, cultural immersion, and access to top-tier educational resources, REVA-IRRC ensures that students are not only well-equipped academically but are also global citizens capable of making a meaningful impact on the world.

Sharath Bachegowda's Metro Push Gets Green Signal

Bengaluru-Hosakote Connectivity to See Major Overhaul

In a significant step towards addressing traffic woes, Congress MLA Sharath Bachegowda's relentless efforts to improve connectivity between KR Puram and Hosakote have gained government attention. During the Legislative Assembly session in Belagavi, Sharath Bachegowda urged the government to prioritise a metro line and flyover to tackle the severe congestion in the area.

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar acknowledged the issue, commending Sharath Bachegowda's long-standing advocacy for this cause. "Around 10,000 commuters travel daily from Kolar to Bengaluru through Hosakote, showcasing the traffic density on this stretch," he noted, adding that the expanding IT Corridor has further amplified traffic in the region.

DK Shivakumar assured the Assembly that the government is actively conducting a detailed survey and preparing plans to extend metro connectivity to Hosakote, Nelamangala, and Bidadi. This expansion aims to provide lasting solutions to the region's infrastructure challenges.

Sharath Bachegowda, known for his progressive vision and pioneering efforts in transforming Hosakote, expressed gratitude for the Deputy CM's supportive stance. "Reducing travel time on this stretch and adding flyover connections to Chennai Road will significantly ease traffic flow and benefit commuters," he emphasised.

As a visionary leader, Sharath Bachegowda aims to transform Hosakote into a bustling satellite city of Bengaluru. With metro connectivity on the horizon, this project will reshape Hosakote's development landscape and benefit its residents immensely.

DK SHIVAKUMAR ASSURED THE ASSEMBLY THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY CONDUCTING A DETAILED SURVEY AND PREPARING PLANS TO EXTEND METRO CONNECTIVITY TO HOSAKOTE, NELAMANGALA, AND BIDADI. THIS EXPANSION AIMS TO PROVIDE LASTING SOLUTIONS TO THE REGION'S INFRASTRUCTURE CHALLENGES.

BOOK NOOK

Outrage
By Ellen Jones

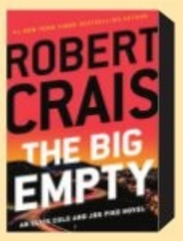
The book is replete with personal accounts of LGBTQ+ people from around the world. The author tells not only the issues but also practical actions that people can take to help create a more equal society.

Homeseeking
By Karissa Chen

The book presents an epic story of a couple across sixty years as world events pull them together and apart, illuminating the Chinese diaspora and exploring what it means to find home away from your homeland.

The Science of Racism
By Keon West

The author cuts through the divisive anecdotes and rhetoric with decades' worth of clear, factual, and scientific data that reveals truths about racism that are shocking yet captivating.



The Big Empty
By Robert Crais

Elvis Cole and his enigmatic partner, Joe Pike, race to find a terrifying, unidentified killer in this twisting, and edgy thriller from number one New York Times bestselling author Robert Crais.

FRAMING TRADITION

Visitors view artist Janardhan Rao Havanje's traditional Kaavi Kale paintings diaplayed in an ongoing exhibiton at the Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICKFIX

GOAN PRAWNS MASALA RAW FRY

INGREDIENTS

- **Prawns (cleaned and deveined):** 250 g medium-sized
- **Turmeric powder:** 1 tsp
- **Chilli powder:** 1 tsp
- **Garam masala:** 1 tsp
- **Lime juice:** 1 tbsp
- **Salt, Oil (for frying)**
- **Semolina (rava):** 3 tbsp
- **Rice flour:** 2 tbsp

METHOD

- Clean the prawns thoroughly and pat them dry using a kitchen towel.
- Marinate the prawns with turmeric powder, red chilli powder, garam masala, lime juice, and salt. Let it sit for 20 minutes. On a plate, mix semolina and rice flour. Coat each prawn in the mixture, pressing gently to ensure an even layer.
- Heat oil in a frying pan over medium heat. Once the oil is hot, fry the prawns for 2-3 minutes on each side until they turn golden brown and crispy.
- Remove the prawns using a slotted spoon and drain them on paper towels.
- Serve hot with lime wedges and a side of salad.

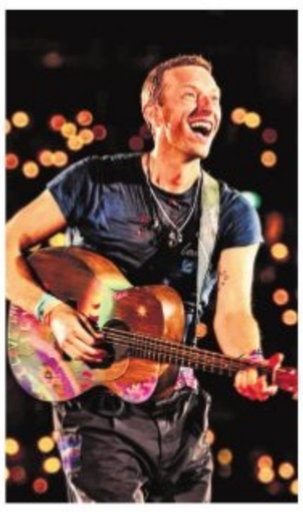
Contributed by **Lynne Pereira**, Margao

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

Timeless Traditions

Immerse yourself in this soulful tribute to the Lord of Dance, Natraja in this Bharatanatyam performance by Upahaar Dance Company. Experience the traditional margam, followed by a series of acts in this graceful evening.

WHEN: December 25, 7pm
WHERE: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur
DETAILS: bangaloreinternationalcentre.org



Yellow Echoes

Catch rock and pop band, 56 Hndrd, play a dynamic tribute to Coldplay. Enjoy timeless hits, electrifying performances, great food and drinks in an unforgettable musical evening.

WHEN: December 24, 9pm
WHERE: Hard Rock Cafe, Shanthala Nagar
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Christmas Screening

Experience this open-air, special movie screening featuring the beloved classic, *Elf*. Embrace the holiday spirit with this cosy movie night alongside great drinks and food.

WHEN: December 24, 7pm
WHERE: Forum South, Konankunte
DETAILS: sunsetcinemaclub.in

Master MMA

Experience beginner-friendly Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) classes where you'll learn striking, grappling, and self-defense techniques with expert instructors. Build fitness through cardio and strength workouts in a safe, supportive environment.

WHEN: December 23, 8pm
WHERE: NY Knockout Academy, Bilekahalli
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Winter Camp

Join this winter camp for kids. Take your little ones on a fun-filled learning adventure this holiday season, from 3D printing electronics to hula hoops, and more.

WHEN: December 23, 10.30am
WHERE: SPOT, Whitefield
DETAILS: allevents.in

Comedy Chronicles

Celebrate festive cheer with standup comic **Gaurav Kapoor**'s set. Laugh your way into an evening full of fun interactions, relatable jokes, and punchlines.

WHEN: December 25, 4pm onwards
WHERE: MLR Convention Centre, Whitefield
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Festive Feast

Feast on the best of X'Mas delicacies at this Christmas eve dinner. Immerse yourself in this joyous culinary celebration of this season's flavours with this traditional Christmas feast.

WHEN: December 24, 7pm
WHERE: Momo Café-Courtyard by Marriott, Bellandur
DETAILS: 080-7120 3040

DR VIVEK ARORA

drvivekarora@hotmail.com

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Dr Gandhi's Pet Clinic, Delhi.

How do I make my pet, a half stray, like the music I like? She has no problem with Hindustani classical or Rabindra Sangeet but gets frightened when we play Beethoven or Bach. Is there something in the instrumental music that may be scaring her?

Your pet's fear of Bach or Beethoven may stem from the frequency, tone, or intensity of the music. Classical compositions, particularly those by Bach and Beethoven, often feature sudden changes in tempo and volume which could be startling for a sensitive animal. Some pets may also be sensitive to certain high-pitched or low-frequency sounds, which these pieces might emphasise. To help her get used to it, try playing the music at a lower volume or use positive reinforcement to encourage calm behaviour while the music plays. With time, she may become more comfortable with it.

ASK AN XPERT

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

FITBIT

PASCHIMA NAMASKARASANA
(STANDING REVERSE PRAYER POSE)

This asana is a standing chest opener pose, which is the foundation of Tadasana (Mountain Pose). The namaskar with palms joined near the chest is the start of the Namaskarasana in a standing pose. But the same pose when the palms are joined in the backside of the body becomes Paschima Namaskarasana. It is also known as Viparita Namaskarasana. Students can also do this pose in a seated position. This is good for opening up shoulder joints and strengthening the arms. It helps in burning arms fat by toning the muscles. Gomukhasana is a preparatory to this pose. It opens the torso, expands the rib cage, and is very effective for all cardiovascular diseases.

STEPS

- Start in Tadasana, taking a few breaths and rolling your shoulders back. Stand upright with a straight spine, relaxed shoulders, and chin parallel to the ground.
- Ground your feet firmly, either together or slightly apart for balance. Let your arms rest by your sides and engage your legs while breathing steadily.
- Bring your arms forward, parallel to the ground. Inhale deeply, opening your chest. Exhale and bring your arms behind your back, joining your palms in a reverse prayer position.
- Initially, only your fingertips may touch. With practise, your wrists will meet. Breathe deeply and hold the pose, staying aware of your shoulders and chest.
- To release, inhale and separate your palms, bringing your arms back to your sides. Return to Tadasana, taking a few breaths.

BENEFITS

- Stretches the forearms and wrist muscles.
- Opens the shoulder blades and joints.
- Tones the biceps and strengthens the pectoral muscles.
- Activates bandhas effectively.
- Lengthens the torso, straightens the back, and opens the chest.
- Expands the diaphragm and creates space in the rib cage.
- Enhances lung capacity and pulmonary function.
- Aligns the shoulder blades and improves back flexibility.
- Corrects hunching and slouching.
- Benefits the mid-back, collarbones, and shoulders.
- Stimulates blood circulation in the chest and lungs.
- Supports cardiovascular and respiratory health.
- Therapeutic for asthma, wheezing, and lung-related conditions.
- Balances the Manipura and Anahata Chakras.
- Reduces negative thoughts and balances emotions.
- Suitable for senior citizens and pregnant women.
- Useful for prenatal and postnatal yoga therapy.

LIMITATIONS

- Avoid this pose if you have shoulder, wrist, elbow, or cervical injuries.
- Warm up tight shoulders or upper body before attempting this pose.
- Maintain proper breath awareness and chest expansion while practising.

By N Elumalai, PhD Scholar (Yoga Science) at Meenakshi Academy of Higher Education & Research, Chennai

ARTCORNER

THE WAYS OF THE WILD

Artist Srinidhi Dabriwal celebrates the boundless energy and beauty of the natural world through her artwork

Madhav Sehgal, Shalini and Raj Khemani

THIS IS 'MY-CITY'

RUBINATIONS

Rubi Chakravarti

Writer, actor and funny girl

LIFE has a funny way of throwing a curve ball at you when you least expect it. Unfortunately, I had to come to terms with losing a young bright and effervescent young girl, all of 37, who passed away leaving her family and friends reeling with shock! I don't want to get into the semantics, but needless to say that something like this makes one question the very veracity of a belief system. But, when one sits back to reflect, there is always a lesson to be learned, and intricate realisations to be had. I learned to be grateful for every extra minute I get to spend with the people I love and how not to be bitter and surrender, to what at times may seem to be unreasonable or unfair.

This week was all about being with and celebrating 'Bangaloreans'.The lovely Kaveri Singhji, a third generation 'Bangalorewalla' and an army-brat like a lot of us, honed upon an idea for a book to celebrate the quintessential 'Bangalorean'. She and her team, of photographers, writers and content-creators (who all seamlessly wanted to be a part of this venture) organically joined her from all over the world to breathe life into this book. Many of my long-time friends featured in the book and the inauguration was at the beautiful Museum of Art and Photography (MAP). The event was like a walk down memory lane as artistes, social-entrepreneurs, writers and philanthropists walked up to the dais, the mighty and the simple rubbing shoulders and each one being an integral cog in the wheel... This is 'my-Bangalore'. A beautiful city filled with 'people-of-substance'!

I barely get to meet with good-friend Madhav Sehgal VP/GM of the Leela Palaces. He travels so extensively that he can give the Interpret-traveller, Ibn Battua a complex! So when we crossed paths literally for a millisecond, he extracted a promise from me to dine with him and

Surbhi Sharma & Juan Antonio March

his friends and experience the on-going Italian-truffle (Il-Tartufo) festival at Le Cirque at the Leela. That was not an invitation to turn down as the signature Italian-truffle dishes (my fave) served there, are simply outstanding! Needless to say a cosy dinner with the 'boss-man' was exemplary and since we were an intimate bunch of 6/7 people the sustenance, the ambrosia and the conversation was exemplary too! It was great meeting the 'unseen' but powerful people who keep a low-profile but who pack a punch. Sigh! Again this is 'my-Bangalore', understated, innovatory and refined. Add in this mix, Il-Tartufo and the finest of Italian wines, then one has oneself an evening which oozes with finesse!

My week would not be finished, without mentioning Surbhi Sharma, the Spanish Honorary Consul at Bangalore. The lovely nymphet has ably held this position for over a decade, and she has become synonymous with the popularity of Spain here, both for trade and tourism. Juan Antonio March, the Spanish Ambassador presided over the Spanish-Constitution-Day party with all the hoi-oligoi, (the chosen 'few') of Bangalore. Surbhi, is an auld 'Bangalore-child' with her background being rooted in the deep armed-forces culture of our city. Again, her parents knew mine and the list goes on. Other than a smattering of various Hon Consuls of various countries (big, small and some remotely unheard of ones) the room was buzzing with nammaooru's, entrepreneurs, artists, CEO's and their ilk.

This is 'my-Bangalore'!

(The writer's views are personal)

VROOM, VROOM

The two-wheeler industry is abuzz with activity and excitement among motorheads is palpable. Here, we take a quick look at the latest unveilings

LEKSHMI C PILLAI

EVEN before the highly anticipated Bharat Mobility Expo next month in New Delhi, two-wheeler enthusiasts have plenty to celebrate. Several new bikes have been unveiled already, most recently at the India Bike Week in Goa, adding to the excitement. Thousands of riders from across the country had flocked here, underscoring the coastal city's growing status as a hub of bike culture in India. In addition, there were also other events, in Goa and elsewhere, where the industry showcased innovations, unveiled new models and demonstrated the prowess of their machines.

Here's a closer look at the upcoming models and releases.

A NEW HERO IN THE E-ZONE

Hero MotoCorp's electric division, Vida, has launched its second scooter, the Vida V2, in three variants: V2 Lite, which comes at ₹96,000; V2 Plus at ₹1.15 lakh; V2 Pro at ₹1.35 lakh (ex-showroom). All variants feature an IP68-rated 6kW motor delivering 25 Nm of torque, powered by removable battery packs. The Lite variant offers a 2.2 kWh battery, while the Plus and Pro variants deliver combined capacities of 3.44 kWh and 3.94 kWh, respectively. These battery packs can be charged to 80% in under six hours. The V2 Pro boasts a claimed range of 165 km with additional riding modes, including Eco, Ride, Sport, and Custom. Standard features across all variants include LED lighting, a 7-inch TFT touchscreen with Bluetooth, reverse mode, and regenerative braking.

A LICENCE TO THRILL

KTM India, a favourite among young riders, unveiled the KTM 390 Adventure S and KTM 390 Enduro R at a Goa event.

Although prices remain undisclosed, bookings are already open. The 390 Adventure S features a bold new design, advanced mechanical components and a host of cutting-edge features. Highlights include a vertically-stacked dual-projector LED headlamp flanked by segmented DRLs, a beak-style front mudguard, a tall windscreen, and stylish handguards.

390 Adventure S

Its edgy tail section, adorned with a compact tail lamp, adds to its sporty appeal. A 5-inch TFT display with Bluetooth and smartphone connectivity, along with cruise control, makes it a tech-savvy option. The KTM 390 Enduro R, designed as a hardcore off-roader, takes a minimalistic approach for lightweight manoeuvrability. With a flat seat, tall ground clearance, and a long front fork, it's built for rugged terrains. Unlike the Adventure S, it features a simple LCD instrument cluster and a single-piece headlight.

Both models are powered by the same 399cc liquid-cooled engine found in the KTM 390 Duke, delivering 45.3 BHP and 39Nm of torque, paired with a 6-speed gearbox and slipper clutch.

DUCATI'S TRIBUTE TO VINTAGE 750 F1

Ducati has introduced the Panigale V4 Tricolore, a limited-edition celebrating the legacy of its 1984 750 F1. This special edition retains the sleek aesthetics of the Panigale V4 while featuring the Italian flag livery and a checkered flag design symbolising Ducati's racing heritage. The Panigale V4 Tricolore is equipped with carbon-fibre rims, a dry clutch, and an industry-first Brembo 338.5 mm T-drive disc braking system for enhanced track performance. Expected in India in early 2025, it will also include a serial number and certificate of authenticity.

TVS RONIN (2025 MODEL)

TVS Motor Company revealed the 2025 Ronin at their Motosoul event. This 225cc motorcycle boasts cosmetic updates, including new Glacier Silver and Charcoal Ember colour schemes, replacing the previous Delta Blue and Stargaze Black options. The mid-spec DS variant now features dual-channel ABS, previously reserved for the top-spec TD variant. The Ronin remains mechanically unchanged, powered by a 225.9cc single-cylinder oil-cooled engine delivering 20.12 BHP and 19.93 Nm of torque, mated to a 5-speed gearbox with a slip-and-assist clutch. Price announcements and commercial rollouts are expected next month.

XPRESS HIGHWAY

FORTNIGHTLY SEGMENT ON WHAT'S REVVING UP IN THE AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR

The writer is a freelance auto expert who hosts TV shows and anchors the YouTube channel 'CARKADUVA'

ROYAL ENSEMBLE: GOAN, SCRAM & FLEA

Royal Enfield continues to celebrate its legacy while embracing innovation, unveiling three exciting offerings at Motoverse 2024 and EICMA 2024 – Goan Classic 350, Scram 440 and Flying Flea. The Goan Classic 350 pays homage to the free-spirited culture of 1970s Goa, blending vintage aesthetics with modern engineering. At its heart lies the popular 349cc air-oil-cooled, single-cylinder engine, delivering 20.2 bhp at 6,100 rpm and 27 Nm of torque at 4,000 rpm. Designed for smooth, unhurried rides, the 5-speed gearbox ensures seamless shifts, making it ideal for both city cruising and open highways.

Adding to its charm, the Goan Classic features a range of bespoke, bobber-inspired Genuine Motorcycle Accessories (GMAs), including a custom rider seat, handlebar grips, bar-end mirrors, a touring screen, deluxe foot pegs, and more. These accessories, available in distinctive brown tones, enhance the bike's timeless style.

Price (Ex-showroom): Single Tone: ₹2,35,000; Dual Tone: ₹2,38,000

Recently, Royal Enfield showcased Scram 440, a versatile crossover ADV designed for urban commutes and weekend adventures. This robust motorcycle is equipped with switchable ABS for adaptable braking on diverse terrains, LED Headlamps for enhanced visibility and a 6-speed gearbox for smooth gear transitions.

Dual-purpose tyres and long-travel suspension for optimal performance on both city roads and off-road trails. With its rugged design and modern upgrades, the Scram 440 seamlessly blends capability and style, making it an ideal choice for those seeking versatility.

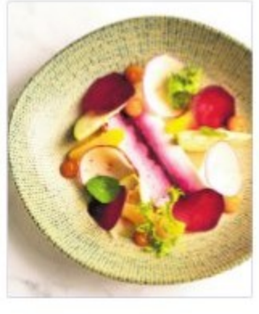
Marking its foray into the electric vehicle segment, Royal Enfield also launched its new EV brand, Flying Flea, at EICMA 2024. This new venture introduces cutting-edge electric mobility solutions, balancing sustainability with the classic Royal Enfield charm.

It comes in two variants – Flying Flea C6, a classically styled electric bike for urban commutes, and Flying Flea S6, a scrambler-styled electric motorcycle for adventurous riders.

NUGGETS

Restaurant offers festive menu

Olive Beach, Ashok Nagar, has a festive menu for lunch and dinner on offer till December 30, in celebration of Christmas and New Year. The menu features comforting dishes like caramelised onion soup and chicken soup alongside delicacies like beetroot, guava and chevre salad and smoked duck roulade. Large plates like portobello and pommes au gratin and herb-crusted New Zealand lamb chop will also be on offer. Specialty cocktails like Merlot's Mulled Magic and Rum Rum Rudolph will be available in addition to an array of liquors. Price for two is approximately ₹3,500. For reservations, call 99455 65483.



THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SAUKATH ALI** ,S/o Bakash(Late), R/a No.182, Modi Road Right Side, D.J Halli, Arabic College Post, Bengaluru - 560045. Have Changed My Name From **SAUKATH ALI** To **SHOUKATH ALI** Vide Affidavit Date:21.12.2024. Sworn Before Notary: B.Chitra.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **RUBI KUMARI** spouse of No 7783050P Rank-HAV (MP) Name: Sunil Kumar R/a Demo Provost Unit, CMP Center and School, Bangalore- 25 have changed my name from RUBI KUMARI to **RUBY KUMARI** vide Affidavit dt: 19/12/2024 before Notary B.M. Chandrashekar Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **CHITRESH CHAUHAN** R/at No.SF-03, Keerthana Kings Bliss, 7th Cross, Green Garden Layout, Munnekolala, Bangalore-560037 have changed my Daughter's name from **AARYAA CHAUHAN** to **ARYAA CHAUHAN** vide affidavit dated: 20/12/2024 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RUKMANI (OLD NAME), Aged about 53 Years, W/o Jagadeesha Shravanabelagola Byregowda, Residing at Nagamangala Road Shravana Belagola, Channarayapatna Taluk, Hassan District 573135, Karnataka State, Today Camping at Bengaluru, have changed my Name to **RUKMINI (NEW NAME),** Vide Affidavit Dated 12/Dec/2024, sworn before Notary MEER HASSAN. Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **KARTHIK SATHISH**, S/o. Sathish P, Residing at D No-412, Ground Floor, 2nd Cross, 5th Main, 2nd Block, B T L Vidhyavahini School, Banashankari 3rd Stage, 3rd Phase, Bengaluru-560085, Karnataka, India, have changed my name from **KARTHIK SATHISH** to **KARTHIK SATHISH BHAT**, vide affidavit dated 20-12-2024 sworn before notary S N MADHU, Reg. No.10108, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I,BADARINARAYAN P BURLI , S/o. Parthasarathi Burli, age about 36 years, Residing at No.203. Panchamukhi Paradise, Kenchenahalli Jnanakshi Vidyaniketan School, Pattanagere,Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Benglauru-98. do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **BADARINARAYAN BURLI TO BADARINARAYAN P BURLI,.** vide affidavit dated 21/12/2024 sworn before advocate & Notary S.R. Thulasikrishna,Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VEENA KAMATH, W/o Vasudev kamath, age dabout 53 years, R/at No.16, 10th Main, 7th Cross, Vasanthnagar, Bangalore-560001. do hereby declare that after my marriage I have changed my name from **VIDYA SHESHAGIRI PADIYAR** to **VEENA KAMATH**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **VEENA KAMATH**, for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 21-12-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MANJUNATH MARIYAPPA, S/o Sri.T Mariyappa, aged about 49 years, R/at No. LF 15/3, Ground Floor, 4th Cross, SFHS, Opp Nandini Layout Petrol Pump, Nandini Layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560096. do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **MANJUNATHA MARIYAPPA** instead of **MANJUNATH MARIYAPPA** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 21-12-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NARAYAN .M. DESHPANDE (Old Name), S/o MAHADEV, Aged about 32 years, Resident at DANDAPUR STREET, NEAR VEERABHADRESHVARA TEMPLE, NARGUND, TQ: NARGUND, DISTRICT: GADAG-582207, PRESENTLY CAMPED AT BENGALURU CITY, declare that I have changed my name from **NARAYAN .M. DESHPANDE** (Old Name) to **NARAYAN DESHPANDE** (New Name), henceforth I shall be known and called as **NARAYAN DESHPANDE** (New Name) for all my personal, official & legal purpose, vide Affidavit dated : 20/12/2024 before Notary **GANGARAJU.B.N.** at BENGALURU.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, VARALAKSHMI, Spouse of No. 1330300, Rank: Ex-Sep, KRISHNAN, Residing at No. 349/A, Sri Krishna Nilaya, 5th Main road, 3rd Phase, WCR, Manjunathnagar, Bengaluru-560010, have changed my name from **VARALAKSHMI to VARALAKSHMI.A** vide affidavit dated 21-12-2024 before **Shri. ONKARAPPA N.R** Notary, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **SATISH BENEGAL @ SATISH MOHAN BENEGAL**, S/o Late Mohan S Benegal, age 61 years, R/at No. 91, F-1, Sumukha Villa, 3rd Main, 5th Cross, Canara Bank Colony, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru-560 072 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **SATISH BENEGAL & SATISH MOHAN BENEGAL** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **SATISH BENEGAL** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 20-12-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. HANUMANTHARAYA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, PALLAVI REVANNASIDDAIAH, D/o. Revannasiddaiah, residing at No.79, 1st Main Road, 1st Cross, RHCS Layout, Srigandhakaval, Viswaneedam, Bangalore- 560091, have changed my name from PALLAVI R to PALLAVI REVANNASIDDAIAH, vide Affidavit dated : 21/12/2024, Sl. No.1723, before Notary D.K. Rameshappa, Bangalore. Henceforth I shall be called as PALLAVI REVANNASIDDAIAH only.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ROSAMMA, W/o V.Ramanaiah, aged about 53 years, residing at No.148, 2nd Cross, Andhra Colony, Near Telephone Exchange, A.Narayanapura, Doorvani Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 016, I declare that wrongly mentioned my name as **Saroja Kandukuru,** my husband name as **Sankara Kandukuru,** DOB as 01-07-1986, Correct my name as **"ROSAMMA"** my husband correct name shall be **V RAMANAIAH**, Correct DOB as 01-07-1971, vide affidavit dated 21/12/2024 sworn to before P.N.Nagesha Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Sagar Thurakanakeri @ Sagar Thurakangeri @ Sagar Thurakanageri @Sagar.S Thurkanageri,** S/o **Shantesh @ Santosh @ Shanthesh,** Aged about 32 years, R/at No.95, 25th Main, HSR Layout, Sector-1, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru. and Permanent Address :- R/at No. 125, Ward No.1 to 15, Near Balaji Temple, Guledgudd, Badami, Bagalkot. I declare that have filed Original Suit for Declaration bearing O.S. No. 5984/2020 before Vth Additional City Civil Court Bangalore and And extension of time to comply the Court Order for Paper publication vide Order dated 25/11/2024 the said suit came to be decreed on 24/3/2023 declaring the my name as Sagar Joshi instead of **Sagar Thurakanakeri.** And extension of time to comply the Court Order for Paper publication vide Order dated 25/11/2024

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Priyanka Jeetendra, age 37 years, D/o. Sri. Prasann Chand Kankaria, R/at No. 2, 5th Cross, Vasanthanagar, Bangalore - 560052, hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Priyanka Jeetendra** to **Priyanka Kankaria.P** Vide Affidavit Dated 20.12.2024, sworn before Advocate & Notary K.V.Bachi Reddy, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, AYESHA, Residing at No. 69, 3rd Main Road, 1st Stage, Karnataka Layout, Kurubarahalli, Mahalakshmipuram Layout, Bengaluru -560086, have changed my name to AYESHA AHMED vide affidavit dated: 20.12.2024 before notary CHANDRAKALA, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NIVEDITA BHAT W/O. CHIRANTANA M.P, D/O. SUBBABHAT.H.M, Aged about 42 years, Residing at Survey No. 84/85, Door No.303, 3RD Floor, Lake View Residency, 6th Cross, MHCS Layout, Vasantapura, Subramanyapura, BENGALURU SOUTH 560 061, have changed the Old name from NIVEDITA BHAT (before marriage) to New Name NIVEDITA CHIRANTAN (after marriage) the affidavit sweared before the Hon'ble XXXI A.C.J.M, Bengaluru city vide affidavit dated 18.12.2024

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Smt. VANAJAKSHI SATISH, W/o. Satish N, Aged about 48 years, R/at. No.12, 4th B Main, Behind Ward Office BBMP, Byraveshwaranagara, Nagarabhavi, Bangalore North, Karnataka - 560072, have changed my name from "VANAJAKSHI GOVINDAPPA" to "VANAJAKSHI SATISH" vide Affidavit dated 19-12-2024 sworn before advocate and notary D. Rajanna, Bangalore**

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Akshaya Hegde** (Old Name), S/o Late Prabhakar Hegde, aged about 30 years, residing at House No. 178, Mahaveer Edenfield, Shantipura, Phase 2, Electronic City, Bangalore – 560 100, have changed my name as **AKSHAYA PRABHAKAR HEGDE** (New Name) vide affidavit dated 21.12.2024 sworn before Advocate & Notary Sri. G. Dayananda.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **DEEKSHA MANJUNATH**, D/o Sri Manjunath .M, aged about 21 years, R/at No.81, 1st Cross, 2nd Block, Opp Raj Kumar Samadi, Nandini Layout, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560096. do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **DEKSHA MANJUNATHA** instead of **DEEKSHA MANJUNATH** are one and the same and refers to me only, vide affidavit dated 21-12-2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **B. CHITRA** at Bangalore.

For SMART ADS & INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

Contact : Mr Ravi Kumar
9886550650
080-22866893

'MANADA KADALU HAS ALLOWED ME TO ENTER THAT COMMERCIAL SPACE'

...says Sumukha, who is more than excited to be part of Yogaraj Bhat's film, made under E Krishnappa's banner

Sumukha

A SHARADHAA

ACTOR Sumukha, who began his career with a role in the multistarrer *Yaana* (2019), has come a long way. His credits include a critically acclaimed performance in *Physics Teacher* (2022) and now director Yogaraj Bhat's Manada Kadalu. He views *Manada Kadalu* as a "relaunch" and a significant step into the commercial space. "My first two films were more of an attempt," Sumukha shares. "Initially, I didn't have the opportunity to enter the commercial space, but this film gave me that chance. I went through the audition process and didn't expect to be part of such a big project."

For Sumukha, being a part of *Manada Kadalu* feels like a huge opportunity, especially given the prestigious combination of E Krishnappa and Yogaraj Bhat, the director of the blockbuster *Mungaru Male*. The two are reuniting after 18 years, and Sumukha is thrilled to be involved in the project. "All that Yogaraj Bhat looked for from me was my voice, followed by auditions, and then everything fell into place," he explains.

Having completed shooting and now in the dubbing phase, Sumukha talks about his experience working in the film. "I expected to get such a film five years into my career, but it came early. It was a big surprise for me," he admits. "The scale of the set and working with experienced professionals was overwhelming. I learnt a lot from the way the director treated me. It was a wonderful learning experience."

Manada Kadalu is set for an early 2025 release. In the lead, Sumukha stars alongside Anjali Anish and Rashika Shetty in the film, with music by V Harikrishna and cinematography by Santhosh Rai Pathaje.

FIR 6to6 is an action thriller, shot entirely at night: Vijay Raghavendra

CE FEATURES

VIJAY Raghavendra, who had a successful run in 2024 with films such as *Case of Kondana* and *Grey Games*, is now preparing to begin the year 2025 with *FIR 6to6*. Ahead of its theatrical release in January, the makers of the thriller have unveiled the audio and trailer for the film. The film is produced by Bhagya Ramesh, who is known for Pattabhisheka. Directed by KV Ramanaraj, *FIR 6 to6* will have Ongi as the cinematographer, as well as music composed by Satish Babu and MS Tyagaraj.

Vijay shared his experience, saying, "This is an action thriller, and we shot the entire film at night. We spent several nights working hard on this movie. The director put in a lot of effort, and we worked through difficulty and experienced enjoyment. The film mainly focuses on action. Sometimes, we shot until 4 in the morning, and the action scenes with Maanju, our thriller specialist, were easy and fun."

Siriraju

Swathi

Yashaa Shetty

Producer Bhagya Ramesh mentioned, "We previously made Pattabhisheka. When Ramanaraj brought this story to us, it was very interesting, and that's why we decided to make this film."

The film also features three female actors, including Siriraj. Speaking about her role, Siriraj says, "I play a girl living in fear, and the character is very well-written." The other lead actresses are Swathi and Yashaa Shetty.

Director Ramanaraj, who had previously worked with Telugu director JD Chakravarthy on an unreleased film, explained that *FIR 6to6* is his second directorial project. "The concept of this film is similar to the one we worked on with JD Chakravarthy. It's about a young man caught in an event and how he faces the situation. The story takes place from evening to early morning, and we aim to make it thrilling." He added, "It was a great experience working with Vijay Raghavendra. We shot the entire film at night over 35 days, and the film has turned out really well."

Vijay Raghavendra

'Best lessons are ones you never plan for'

Hrithika

Aishwarya

Prakruthi

As they gear up for its release this week, *Out of Syllabus* director and lead actor Pradeep Doddaiah and other key cast members discuss their characters, the challenges they faced, and the film's unique themes

CE FEATURES

THE year 2024 is set to end with the theatrical release of *Out of Syllabus*, written and directed by the multitalented Pradeep Doddaiah, on December 27. Produced by K Vijayakala Sudhakar, the film dives deep into the complex world of modern youth, exploring the challenges they face in college life, their relationships, and their journey towards self-identity. What makes this film even more exciting is that it marks Doddaiah's debut as not only a director but also a lead actor. Alongside him, seasoned actor Achyuth Kumar plays Rayappa, a cricket-loving character with a surprise twist, while the ensemble cast brings the struggles of today's generation to life. The film has music by five different composers, cinematography by Dev, and editing by Umesh RB.

Achyuth Kumar plays a character with a penchant for cricket and delivering philosophical musings about life. Achyuth shares, "In a world where ego often creates barriers, my character in *Out of Syllabus* plays a pivotal role in showing the way forward. Rayappa isn't just a cricket fan; he symbolises the importance of unity, understanding, and bridging gaps between people." According to Achyuth, his role adds a deeper layer of wisdom, making the film not just a youth drama but also a commentary on personal connection and breaking down societal walls.

Aishwarya Rachel, who plays Prachi, brings a perfect balance between modern desires and traditional values. She describes her character as someone "flirting with freedom but grounded in tradition," embodying the tension many young people feel today. "I'm really excited about this film," Aishwarya says. "Prachi is trying to define herself in a world full of expectations, and I believe many young women will relate to her struggles." Her portrayal of Prachi highlights the complexities of a generation that is constantly balancing the old and the new, tradition and progress.

Prakruthi plays Pooja, a determined young woman who faces an unexpected situation in her life. "Pooja is a girl with goals, but sometimes life doesn't follow the script," she explains. "Pooja gets caught in a trap she never saw coming. The film showcases the struggles ambitious girls face—how societal expectations and even love can throw them off their carefully planned paths." Pooja's journey speaks to the challenges that come with ambition and the unforeseen obstacles that can derail even the most determined individuals.

Hrithika Srinivas plays Divya, a character who starts off deeply in love, only to realise that commitment alone isn't enough. "Divya's character arc is all about growth and adapting to reality," Hrithika says. "She learns that love isn't just about sticking to the commitment—it's about understanding the realities of the journey." Divya's storyline touches on the emotional evolution we all experience when love, life, and commitment intersect. As per Divya, it's a raw and relatable exploration of the complexities of relationships.

Veteran director Yogaraj Bhat also plays a crucial role as a college professor in *Out of Syllabus*. Known for his masterful storytelling, Yogaraj shares, "I portray a character who doesn't merely teach lessons but nurtures the unique minds that walk into my classroom. The right guidance can shape the future of youth, and I hope to bring depth to my character." His role as a mentor adds a comforting layer of wisdom to the film, reinforcing the importance of guidance and the impact a teacher can have on shaping young minds.

For Pradeep Doddaiah, playing the lead role of Dev while directing the film was a deeply personal journey. "My role reflects the journey of a committed professional whose path to college unveils deeper, unscripted lessons of life," Pradeep explains. "In *Out of Syllabus*, life doesn't follow a fixed curriculum—it teaches us lessons that are unexpected yet crucial. As Dev, I'm learning that the best lessons are the ones you never plan for." For Pradeep Doddaiah, this film is more than just a reflection on youth; it's about the realisation that life's most important lessons are often the ones that come unannounced, outside of any syllabus.

As the director, Pradeep says, "*Out of Syllabus* captures the essence of youth—their struggles and aspirations, and the unpredictable path they often follow."

Pradeep Doddaiah

Achyuth Kumar

Shivarajkumar collaborates with director N Maharajan for MB

CE FEATURES

ALTHOUGH Shivarajkumar has traveled to the US for his treatment, his commitment to cinema remains strong. While his next film 45 is lined up for release and a handful of other projects are at different stages of development, Shivanna has given the green light to yet another new project.

Titled MB, the film will be backed by Mumbai-based ADD-ONE Films and directed by N Maharajan. Known for his hit film Vallarasu, starring Vijayakanth, Maharajan has also directed a couple of Tamil films, and a Hindi film starring Sunny Deol. This project with Shivarajkumar will mark his directorial debut in Kannada cinema. Online movie streaming services

Manoj Banode and Khame Chand Khadgi, who have organised numerous large-scale events through ADD-ONE Films, are now stepping into film production. This will be their first film production in South India, specifically in Kannada cinema. The film, starring Shivarajkumar, is set to be a pan-India release in six languages, and the producers are thrilled to present a film featuring the actor.

As for the meaning behind MB, the director has kept it a secret for now and plans to reveal more details about the title and the film's team in the coming days. Production is scheduled to commence by mid-2025.

The Running Man gets Christmas 2025 release

CE FEATURES

PARAMOUNT Pictures has moved the release date of *The Running Man* remake from November 21 to November 7, 2025, to avoid a clash with Jon M Chu's Wicked: For Good. Glen Powell stars in the same role as that of Arnold Schwarzenegger from the 1987 original. The Edgar Wright directorial also stars Sean Hayes, Daniel Ezra, Lee Pace, Jayme Lawson, Josh Brolin, Karl Glusman, Katy O'Brian, Emilia Jones and Emilia Jones.

The Running Man, based on Stephen King's novel of the same name, is set in a dystopian future where the US government controls the media.

The film follows Ben Richards (Powell), who volunteers to join a game show where he has to run from professional killers for 30 days to win a cash prize, which will help him out of his poor living situation and save his ill child. The film is written by Wright along with Michael Bacall. It is produced by Wright and Nira Park through their banner Complete Fiction and Simon Kinberg through Genre Films.

Barry Keoghan, Jenna Ortega film titled *Hurry Up Tomorrow*

CE FEATURES

EARLIER, we reported that actors Jenna Ortega and Barry Keoghan, as well as musician Abel Makkonen Tesfaye (The Weeknd), would star in an upcoming film directed by Trey Edward Shults. The latest from the project is that it has been titled *Hurry Up Tomorrow*. Inspired by The Weeknd, the film is described as a "musically driven psychological thriller."

Interestingly, the film shares the same title as The Weeknd's forthcoming album, which concludes his artistic trilogy following 'After Hours' (2020) and 'Dawn FM' (2022). *Hurry Up Tomorrow* is backed by The Weeknd through his banner Manic Phase and Reza Fahim, alongside Harrison Kreiss and the late Kevin Turen. It is executive produced by Ortega and Edward Shults, alongside Michael Rapino, Ryan Kroft, Harrison Huffman, and Wassim "Sal" Slaiby.

The film has cinematography by Chayse Irvin, music by the Weeknd and Daniel Lopatin, production design by Elliott Hostetter, and costume design by Erin Benach and Hannah Jacobs.